
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2013



Dupont Circle
National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan
Reservations

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Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

Dupont Circle is situated in the northwest quadrant of Washington, DC, and is set within a ten-point traffic circle, where Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire Avenues converge. As part of National Mall & Memorial Parks (formerly National Capital Parks-Central), the Dupont Circle landscape encompasses Reservation 59 (.14 acres) and Reservation 60 (2.29 acres). As one of the original open spaces on Pierre Charles L'Enfant's 1791 Plan for Washington, DC, Reservation 60, today is marked by a large centrally located elevated fountain basin encircled by a paved concrete plaza lined with hedges and benches. Radiating out from the fountain is a series of axial walks—that cut through open lawn dotted by specimen trees—and align with the adjacent avenues and streets; all of which are connected by a concrete circular walk lined with benches along the perimeter of the park. Beyond the walk, an outer ring of elm trees define the space. Reservation 59 is limited to the historic Dupont Lodge House, which now serves as a community center.

Significance Summary:

Dupont Circle (Res.59 and 60; Res. 61 excluded from this CLI) is significant as part of National Mall and Memorial Parks and also as a contributing resource within the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, DC. National Register Nomination (1997) and Massachusetts Avenue (1974) and Dupont Circle Historic Districts (1978, amended 1985, and boundary increase in 2005). The Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain is also listed as a contributing resource in the Civil War Monuments in Washington, DC National Register Nomination (1978).

The Dupont Circle landscape derives significance under Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development (urban planning) and under Criterion C in the areas of landscape architecture, and art. In the area of community planning and development, Dupont Circle is significant as a major element in L'Enfant's plan for the development of the capital and as the focal point for one of the more elegant architecturally rich residential neighborhoods in Washington, DC. In the area of landscape architecture, the Dupont Circle landscape is significant as a contributing element within the portion of the city laid out by Pierre Charles L'Enfant using Baroque design principles. Dupont Circle derives additional significance in the area of landscape architecture as an independent work of Neoclassical/Beaux-Arts landscape design that reflects the City Beautiful ideals espoused by the McMillan Commission. The Dupont Circle landscape is also significant in the area of art for the Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain.

This CLI proposes two periods of significance for Dupont Circle: 1791 to 1792 and 1868 to 1951. The earlier dates encompass Pierre Charles L'Enfant's (1755-1825) design of the city of Washington and Andrew Ellicott's (1754-1820) map of Washington. Dupont Circle appears on both the L'Enfant and Ellicott's plans. The later period of significance date for the Dupont Circle landscape begins in 1868 with the initial site improvements of Dupont Circle and extends to 1951, the year the last design for the circle was completed following the construction of the Connecticut Avenue underpass.

Analysis and Evaluation Summary and Condition:

Despite some changes in vegetation, circulation, and small-scale features, Dupont Circle (Reservation 59 and 60) still retains many landscape characteristics and features from the period of significance. The

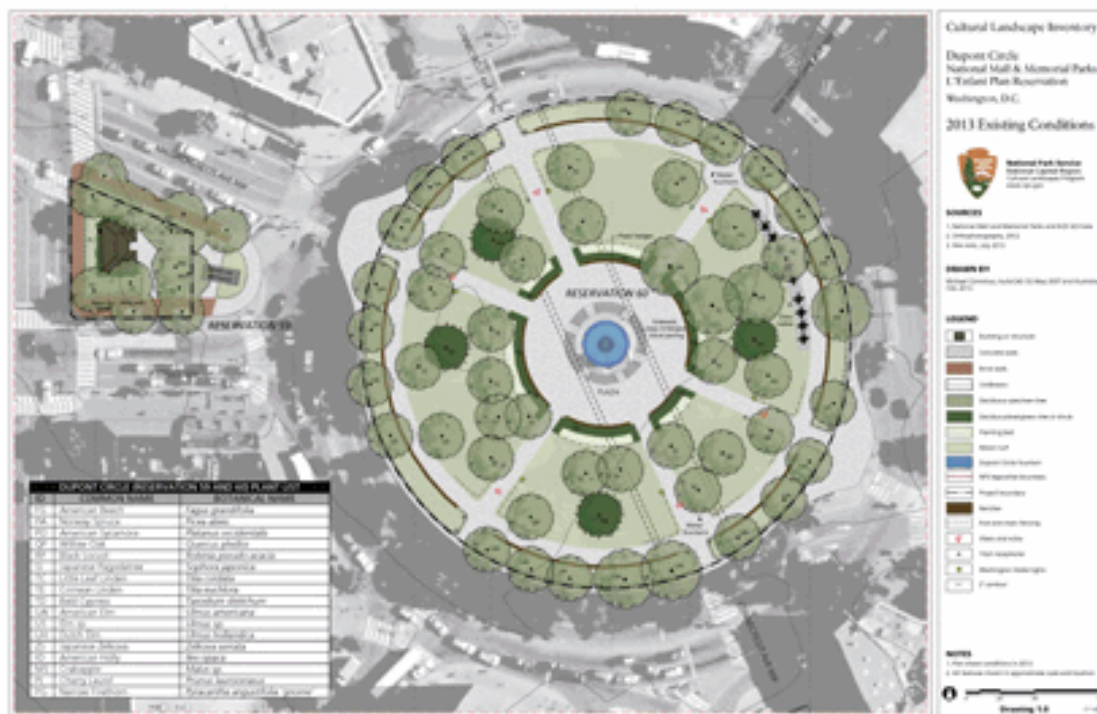
Dupont Circle

National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations

most important landscape characteristics are spatial organization; views and vistas (views to the circle from the streets-res.60, views from the circle to surrounding streets-res. 60, and internal views to the fountain-res. 60); land use (traffic circle, monument/memorial site, public park, community center); vegetation (lawn panels-res. 60, plaza hedges-res. 60, perimeter elms-res. 60, and interior specimen trees-res. 60); circulation (concentric concrete walks-res. 60, radial concrete walks-res. 60, and quarter-round curbing (exposed aggregate concrete)- res. 59 and 60); buildings and structures (Dupont Lodge House-res.59); constructed water features (Dupont Circle Fountain-res.60); and small-scale features (Dupont Circle benches-res.60, and Washington Globe lights-res.60) The cultural landscape within Dupont Circle (Reservation 59 and 60) retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Dupont Circle has minor impacts that affect its overall condition. These impacts include some structural deterioration and deferred maintenance of several small-scale features, as well as minor erosion of the soil and improper drainage in select parts of Reservation 60. In Reservation 59, the only impacts are minor and due to deferred maintenance. They do not need immediate attention.

Site Plan



Site Plan: As part of National Mall & Memorial Parks (formerly National Capital Parks-Central), the Dupont Circle landscape encompasses Reservation 59 (.14 acres) and Reservation 60 (2.29 acres) (NCR)

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Dupont Circle
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	600234
Parent Landscape:	600215

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations -NAMA
Park Organization Code:	340A
Subunit/District Name Alpha Code:	National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations - NAMA
Park Administrative Unit:	National Capital Parks-Central

CLI Hierarchy Description

Dupont Circle is a component landscape of National Mall & Memorial Parks (formerly National Capital Parks-Central) and a part of the L'Enfant Plan for the City of Washington. The landscape consists of Reservations 59 and 60; Reservation 61 is excluded from this CLI.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This cultural landscape inventory was researched and written by Cultural Resource Specialist Michael Commisso and National Council for Preservation Education (NCPE) intern Caitlin Herrnstadt with the National Park Service, National Capital Region. They also inventoried and mapped the existing conditions at Dupont Circle in July 2013. Initial research and the chronology were completed by Frances McMillen and Jonathan Pliska, both landscape historians with the Cultural Landscapes Program, National Capital Region. Primary and secondary source material from within the National Park Service and local repositories was utilized to complete the inventory. Research and editorial assistance was provided by Maureen Joseph, Regional Historical Landscape Architect; Martha Temkin, Regional Cultural Landscape Inventory Coordinator; and Allison Dixon, Museum Technician, and James Perry, Cultural Resource Program Manager, both with National Mall and Memorial Parks.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/09/2013
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	09/27/2013

National Register Concurrence Narrative:

The State Historic Preservation Officer for the District of Columbia concurred with the findings of the Dupont Circle CLI on 9/27/2013, in accordance with Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. It should be noted that the Date of Eligibility Determination refers to this Section 110 Concurrence and not the date of National Register Eligibility, since that is not the purview of the Cultural Landscapes Inventory.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Dupont Circle
National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

August 29, 2013
Memorandum:

To: Regional Landscape Architect, National Capital Region
From: Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks
Subject: Statement of Concurrence, Dupont Circle Cultural Landscape Inventory

I, Robert Vogel, Superintendent of National Mall and Memorial Parks, concur with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory for Dupont Circle, including the following specific components:

PERIODS OF SIGNIFICANCE: 1791-1792 and 1868-1951

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must be Preserved and Maintained

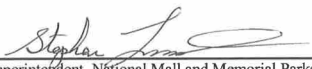
CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory for Dupont Circle is hereby approved and accepted.



Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks

9-9-13

Date

Concurrence Memo signed by the park superintendent on 9/9/2013

Dupont Circle
National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations



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CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Fair

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Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory for Dupont Circle is hereby approved and accepted.


Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks

9-9-13
Date

Concurrence Memo signed by the DC SHPO on 9/27/2013

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Dupont Circle includes the primary park reservation, Reservation 60, and its related parklets, Reservations 60 and 61. However, Reservation 61 is not documented as part of this Cultural Landscape Inventory because it is not owned by the National Park Service. Reservation 60 is located in northwest Washington, DC and is between Eighteenth and Twentieth streets west and at the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues. Reservation 59 is situated immediately

northwest of Reservation 60 and is located at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and P Street north.

The alignment of the former DC Transit Company trolley line extends along Connecticut Avenue, N.W. As the trolley line approaches Dupont Circle, the tracks diverge and encircle Reservation 60 and the roadway that surrounds the reservation. Although D.C Transit Company originally obtained a subsurface right from the District, today the former line is owned by the District of Columbia Department of Transportation. Although an entrance to the former underground trolley line remains on a portion of Reservation 59, this portion of the reservation was transferred to the District in 1951. Reservation 61 was also transferred at this time and is the reason for its exclusion from this cultural landscape inventory.

State and County:

State: DC

County: District of Columbia

Size (Acres): 61.45

Boundary UTMS:

Source: USGS Map 1:24,000

Boundary Source Narrative: Reservation 59

Type of Point: Point

Datum: NAD 83

UTM Zone: 18

Source: USGS Map 1:24,000

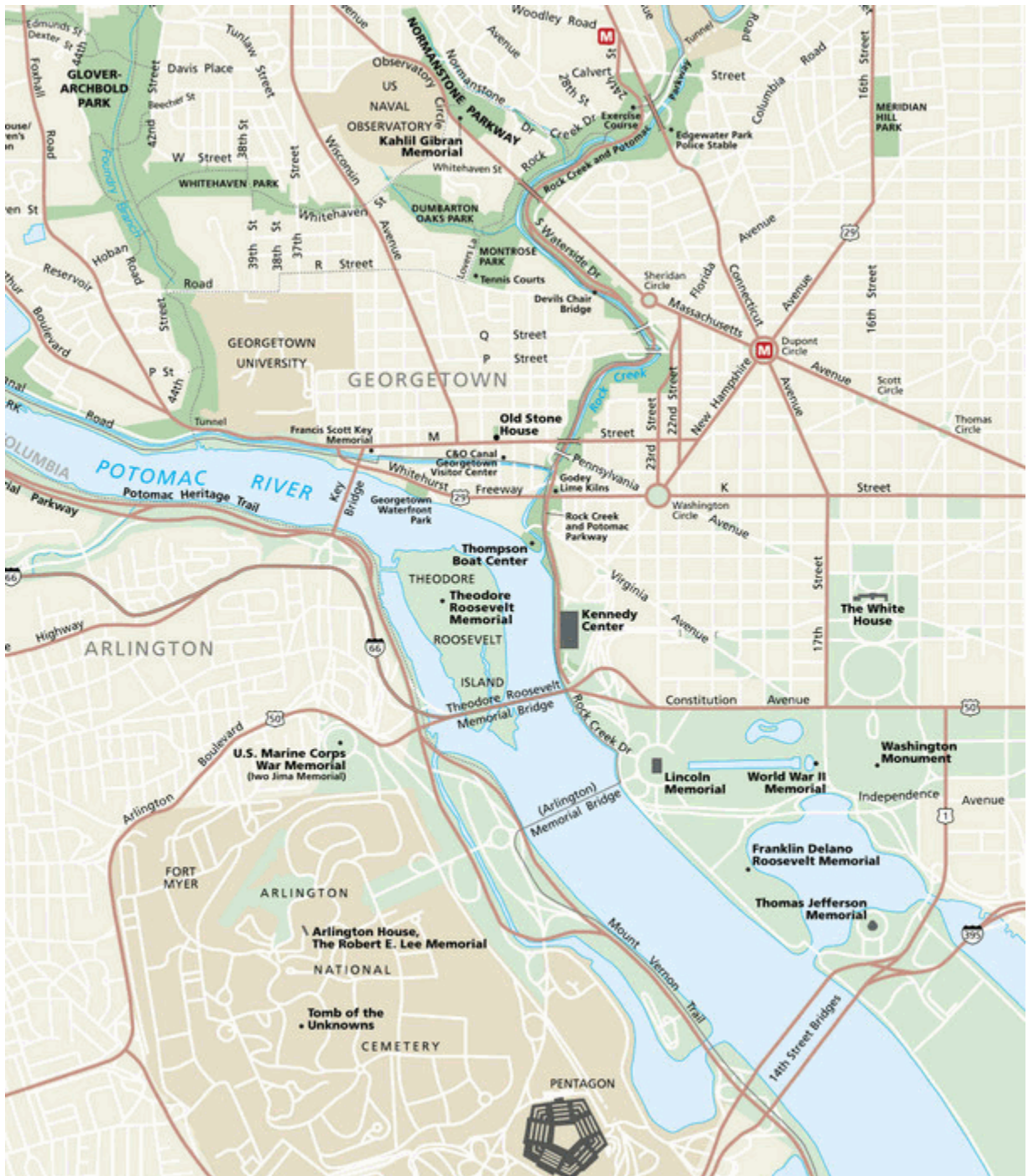
Boundary Source Narrative: Reservation 60

Type of Point: Point

Datum: NAD 83

UTM Zone: 18

Location Map:



Location Map: Dupont Circle is situated in the northwest quadrant of Washington, DC, and is set within a ten-point traffic circle, where Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire Avenues converge (Harpers Ferry Center).

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/09/2013

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Dupont Circle (Reservations 59 and 60) are included in the National Register nominations for the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, DC, and Dupont Circle and Massachusetts Avenue Historic Districts, as contributing resources within the district boundaries. In addition, this CLI finds that Dupont Circle is eligible for listing on the National Register according to significance Criterion A in the area of community planning and development and Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture. Furthermore the landscape retains its historic character and integrity, and therefore warrants preservation in keeping with its status as a historic property.

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement: Special Use Permit

Expiration Date: 2016

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

There is a no-rent lease in which NPS allows the ANC to use the lodge as the Dupont Circle Reservation Center with the stipulation that they must undertake the cleaning, regular interior upkeep, necessary repairs, and preventative upgrades.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

Dupont Circle

National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations

Adjacent lands contribute to the significance and integrity of the Dupont Circle cultural landscape in their preservation of the historic character of the area. This includes historic homes and structures dating to the period of significance and also within the boundaries of the National Register Nominations for the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, DC, and Dupont Circle and Massachusetts Avenue Historic Districts.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

Dupont Circle is listed on the National Register as part of the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, DC. National Register Nomination (1997) and Dupont Circle (1778; boundary increase in 1985 and 2005) and Massachusetts Avenue Historic Districts (1974). The Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain is also listed as a contributing resource in the Civil War Monuments in Washington, DC National Register Nomination (1978).

The L'Enfant plan of the City of Washington nomination form identified national significance under Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development, politics and government, and transportation, for its relationship with the creation of the new United States of America and the creation of a capital city; it met Criterion B because of its association with Pierre L'Enfant, and subsequent development and enhancement by numerous significant persons and groups; and finally it identified significance under Criterion C in the area of landscape architecture as a well-preserved, comprehensive, Baroque plan with Beaux Arts modifications. The period of significance was listed as 1790 to 1942. The documentation identified the open spaces that contained Reservations 59-61, the Dupont Memorial Fountain, walks, seating, fencing, Washington Globe lamps, and a lodge building. It also identified the avenues and streets, as well as views and vistas related to the streets and avenues.

A draft National Historic Landmark nomination has also been prepared for the L'Enfant Plan (also referred to as The Plan of the City of Washington). The nomination form identifies national significance under Criterion 1 (association with events that represent the broad national patterns of United States history) and Criterion 4 (embodying the distinguishing characteristics of a period, style, or method of construction). The proposed period of significance begins with 1791 (the year in which L'Enfant presented his plan to President Washington) and ends in 1942. The terminal watershed year was selected because the entry of the United States into World War II in December 1941 essentially halted the implementation of the McMillan Plan as the framework for public building and park development.

The Dupont Circle Historic District nomination form identified local significance under Criterion A in the area of community development and planning and local history as a major element of the L'Enfant Plan and the last area of the Federal City to be developed. It also derives local significance under Criterion C in architecture for superior examples of Victorian rowhouse architecture in Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque styles, as well as some of the city's finest turn-of-the-century mansions in Beaux Arts, Chateausque, Renaissance, and Georgian Revival styles. It also has served as the home of many prominent and affluent Washingtonians, as well as foreign legations. The district also includes fine examples of early apartments, 1920s commercial buildings along Connecticut Avenue, modest working-class dwellings, stables, and carriage houses. There are approximately 3100 buildings dating between c. 1875-1931. Although the nomination form in 1978 (amended, 1985) does not specify a period of significance for the district, the period of significance identified in the 2005 National Register nomination boundary increase documentation is between 1791 and 1931. While there is

mention of the circle being the central focal point to the district, the documentation for the district mostly focused on the buildings within the district.

Overlapping the Dupont Circle Historic District from 17th Street on the east to Florida Avenue on the west, the Massachusetts Avenue Historic District nomination form identified local significance under Criterion A in the areas of urban planning and urban history as among the finest realizations of L'Enfant's Baroque vision of grand vistas and diagonal avenues; exemplar of the fashion for urban boulevards in the European manner, with dynamic interaction among buildings, streets, and landscaped open space. It is also locally significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture for its grand mansions, row houses, and embassies, known as "Embassy Row." It includes some of the city's most elegant and lavish turn-of-the-century residences—approximately 150 buildings constructed between c.1880-1940; and is home to many foreign governments since early 1900s. Architectural styles include Queen Anne, Richardsonian Romanesque, Beaux Arts, Chateausque, and Classical Revival. The period of significance selected is 19th and 20th centuries. The documentation enumerates many of the buildings surrounding Dupont Circle, but does not specifically mention the landscape related features within Reservation 59 and 60.

The Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain is listed within the Civil War Monuments in Washington, DC National Register Nomination. It is nationally significant under Criterion C in the areas of military and sculpture. The period of significance selected is 1800 to 1899. Although the fountain was constructed in 1921—replacing an earlier Dupont statue, no 20th century end date is listed in the nomination. The documentation describes the fountain, but does not elaborate on its setting. The documentation stated that “this nomination is concerned with only the monuments themselves and not the surrounding parkland where they are located.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the “CLI Professional Procedures Guide” the Dupont Circle landscape is inadequately documented based on the existing National Register documentation. While most of the site's major buildings and structures have been documented, important historic resource related to circulation, vegetation, views, and small-scale features have not yet been determined eligible for the National Register. Therefore, for purposes of the CLI, the property is considered “Entered-Inadequately Documented.”

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, District of Columbia
NRIS Number:	97000332
Primary Certification Date:	08/24/1997
Name in National Register:	Civil War Monuments in Washington, DC
NRIS Number:	78000257
Primary Certification Date:	09/20/1978

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	Site
Significance Level:	National
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	CE 1868 - 1951
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Landscape Architecture
Facet:	Regional Planning
Time Period:	CE 1868 - 1951
Historic Context Theme:	Expressing Cultural Values
Subtheme:	Painting and Sculpture
Facet:	The 20th Century, 1900-1930

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Community Planning and Development
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Statement of Significance:

Dupont Circle (Res.59 and 60; Res. 61 excluded from this CLI) is significant as part of National Mall and Memorial Parks and also as a contributing resource within the L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington, DC. National Register Nomination (1997) and Massachusetts Avenue (1974) and Dupont Circle Historic Districts (1978, amended 1985, and boundary increase in 2005). The Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain is also listed as a contributing resource in the Civil War Monuments in Washington, DC National Register Nomination (1978).

The Dupont Circle landscape derives significance under Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development (urban planning) and under Criterion C in the areas of landscape architecture, and art. In the area of community planning and development, Dupont Circle is significant as a major element in L'Enfant's plan for the development of the capital and as the focal point for one of the more elegant architecturally rich residential neighborhoods in Washington, DC. In the area of landscape architecture,

the Dupont Circle landscape is significant as a contributing element within the portion of the city laid out by Pierre Charles L'Enfant using Baroque design principles. Dupont Circle derives additional significance in the area of landscape architecture as an independent work of Neoclassical/Beaux-Arts landscape design that reflects the City Beautiful ideals espoused by the McMillan Commission. The Dupont Circle landscape is also significant in the area of art for the Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain.

This CLI proposes two periods of significance for Dupont Circle: 1791 to 1792 and 1868 to 1951. The earlier dates encompass Pierre Charles L'Enfant's (1755-1825) design of the city of Washington and Andrew Ellicott's (1754-1820) map of Washington. Dupont Circle appears on both the L'Enfant and Ellicott's plans. The later period of significance date for the Dupont Circle landscape begins in 1868 with the initial site improvements of Dupont Circle and extends to 1951, the year the last design for the circle was completed following the construction of the Connecticut Avenue underpass.

CRITERION A

Community Planning and Development:

The Dupont Circle landscape derives national significance under Criterion A in the areas of community planning and development (urban planning) as a major element in L'Enfant's plan for the development of the United States Capital. As stated in the L'Enfant Plan National Register nomination (1997), the historic plan for the capital surpassed the social, economic, and cultural balance of an ordinary city. It served as the model for American City planning and a symbol of government power to be seen by other nations. Some of the important aspects of the plan can still be seen today, specifically with the intended placement and orientation of the buildings and avenues. Beyond its national significance, as the sole comprehensive Baroque urban plan in the United States, it influenced the appearance of subsequent planned capitals in this country and elsewhere (L'Enfant Plan National Register Nomination [1997], Section 8, Pages 2-4).

The Dupont Circle landscape is also locally significant in the area of community planning and development for its inclusion within the Massachusetts Avenue and Dupont Circle Historic Districts. The Massachusetts Avenue Historic District contains Massachusetts Avenue, among the finest realizations of L'Enfant's Baroque vision of grand vistas and diagonal avenues, and some of the city's most elegant mansions, row houses, and embassies dating between c. 1880 and 1940. Within the Dupont Circle Historic District, Dupont Circle serves as the focal point within one of the more elegant architecturally rich and affluent residential neighborhoods in Washington, DC. This district contains superior examples of Victorian row houses architecture in Queen Anne and Richardsonian Romanesque styles, as well as some of the city's finest turn-of-the-century mansions in Beaux Arts, Chateausque, Renaissance, and Georgian Revival styles. It also includes fine examples of early apartments, 1920s commercial buildings along Connecticut Avenue, modest working-class dwellings, stables, and carriage houses. The district contains approximately 3100 buildings dating between c. 1875 and 1931.

CRITERION C

Landscape Architecture:

The Dupont Circle landscape is nationally significant in the area of landscape architecture as a contributing element within the portion of the city laid out by Pierre Charles L'Enfant using Baroque design principles. L'Enfant's 1791 plan for the capital consisted of an orthogonal street plan overlaid with radiating avenues, parks, and vistas (L'Enfant Plan National Register Nomination [1997], Section 8, Page 2). The avenues radiated from the locations L'Enfant identified as the President's House and the Congress House (Capitol). Streets extending from the President's House intersected with squares, circles, and other public spaces. L'Enfant identified 15 circles and squares on his plan where he proposed commemorative or decorative features, such as columns and obelisks, could be erected (L'Enfant Plan National Register Nomination [1997], Section 8, Page 8). He proposed that these spaces be divided among the states for each to improve. Dupont Circle, including both Reservations 59 and 60, was not among the 15 sites, but it did appear as an open piece of land on the original plan. Dupont Circle also appears in Andrew Ellicott's 1792 map, which reproduced and modified L'Enfant's plan.

Dupont Circle is also locally significant in the area of landscape architecture as an independent work of Neoclassical/Beaux-Arts landscape design that reflects the City beautiful ideals espoused by the McMillan Commission. Similar to other parks laid out in the late nineteenth century, the Dupont Circle landscape—particularly Reservation 60—initially reflected the naturalistic and picturesque style of design that was embellished with overlays of ornate garden features in the gardensque style. This landscape was characterized by curving drives, views, and groupings of trees. However, in the early 1900s, the City Beautiful Movement and the work of the McMillan Commission influenced the rehabilitation of many parks and open spaces in Washington, DC, including Dupont Circle. In 1933, the park was redesigned in a more Neoclassical/Beaux-Arts design that was characterized by formality, symmetry, axes, and ornament. The circulation featured ten radial walks and a circular plaza around the Dupont Fountain. The pair of circular walks running around the perimeter of the site were retained, as well as the majority of perimeter elms and specimen trees dotting the interior of the park.

The Dupont Circle was again redesigned in 1951 following the construction of the streetcar tunnels and vehicular underpass. Retaining the Neoclassical design of the 1930s, the circle still contained radial walks that extended beyond the Dupont Fountain, but were reduced from ten walks to six and realigned with the surrounding streets and avenues. This departure from the original layout figured prominently in the new design as it created vistas along the avenues. Additionally, the width of the outermost circular walk was reduced to four feet to accommodate increased automobile traffic; the secondary circular walk was widened by two feet; and continuous benches were installed lining the plaza adjacent to the Dupont Fountain and along the secondary circular walk. Although there were some changes in the vegetation as part of this new design, the overall planting pattern of lawns and trees were retained. Today, the majority of these design characteristics and features are extant within the park.

Art:

The Dupont Circle landscape derives additional national significance within the area of art for the Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain, one of the many memorials in Washington, DC, honoring the military figures of the Civil War. The outdoor statuary constitutes an outstanding collection of 19th and early 20th century memorial sculpture. With exception to the Rear Admiral Francis Dupont

Memorial Fountain and a handful of others, most are equestrian statues or standing portrait figures in the realistic style, executed in bronze with classically embellished stone bases. Placed strategically in public parks, they exemplify both the spirit of the L'Enfant Plan and the role of the national capital as a commemorative setting. Whether commissioned by veterans' groups or by Congress, most are by leading sculptors of the day, and although varied in artistic quality, they provide an unsurpassed historical record of public sentiment in the aftermath of the war.

Having replaced an earlier stature to Admiral Dupont, the Rear Admiral Francis Dupont Memorial Fountain, is the second memorial that has been constructed in Dupont Circle. Sculpted by Daniel Chester French, the fountain consists of a lower marble basin from which rises a tall pedestal enriched with sculpture. An elegantly proportioned marble bowl surmounts the pedestal. The pedestal is divided into three alcoves separated by pilasters. Each alcove contains a sculptural figure representing the arts of ocean navigation: the sea, wind, and stars. The fountain was dedicated December 20, 1921 (Civil War Monument in Washington, DC. National Register Nomination [1978], Section 7, page 2).

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Designed

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Urban Park

Primary Current Use: Urban Park

Other Use/Function

Outdoor Recreation

Outdoor Sculpture (Statuary)

Other Type of Use or Function

Both Current And Historic

Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name

Pacific Circle

Dupont Circle

Reservation 59

Reservation 60

Type of Name

Historic

Both Current And Historic

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Ethnographic Study Conducted:

No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1632	Land Transfer	King Charles I grants all of the land comprising the future site of Washington, DC, to George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, and to his heirs and successors (McNeil 1991: 35).
CE 1658	Established	Lord Baltimore creates Charles County, MD, which reaches along the Potomac River as high as the settlements extend`` (Gahn 1936: 12). Present-day Washington, DC, including the Dupont Circle cultural landscape, falls within this boundary (McNeil 1991: 35).
CE 1664	Platted	``Widow`s Mite,`` a 600-acre tract of land west of Rock Creek and north of the Potomac River, is surveyed for John Langworth. The property contains the present-day Dupont Circle neighborhood of northwest Washington, DC (Gahn 1936: 17; McNeil 1991: 42, 51; Proctor 1930: 13; Williams 1930: 18).
CE 1686	Land Transfer	William Langworth patents the Widow`s Mite tract (McNeil 1991: 51).
CE 1693 - 1694	Purchased/Sold	William Langworth dies and his will directs that the Widow`s Mite tract be sold. The probable purchaser is John Bowling of St. Mary`s County, MD, the next known owner of the property (Gahn 1936: 17-18; Proctor 1930: 13).
CE 1696	Established	Prince George`s County, MD, is established from lands formerly contained within Charles County (McNeil 1991: 35).
CE 1711	Purchased/Sold	John Bowling dies. His will stipulates that the Widow`s Mite tract be sold for the benefit of his estate (Proctor 1930: 13).
CE 1714	Purchased/Sold	Thomas Fletchall purchases the Widow`s Mite tract (McNeil 1991: 37; Proctor 1930: 13).

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CE 1714 - 1717	Built	Fletchall builds and inhabits a house near the present-day intersection of 19th and M streets, NW. The building stands approximately three blocks south of the eventual site of the Dupont Circle reservation, and Fletchall is most likely the first person to settle in what is today the Dupont Circle neighborhood (McNeil 1991: 37).
CE 1717	Land Transfer	Fletchall dies and the Widow's Mite tract is subsequently divided into smaller parcels and passed to various landowners (McNeil 1991: 37, 51; Proctor 1930: 13).
CE 1776	Established	Montgomery County, MD, is established from lands formerly contained within Charles County (McNeil 1991: 35).
CE 1784	Purchased/Sold	James M. Lingan purchases a part of the Widow's Mite tract and briefly occupies a simple house at what is today the center of 19th Street, NW, between M and N streets (Dorsey 1910: 12; Proctor 1930: 14).
CE 1788 - 1791	Purchased/Sold	Lingan purchases additional lands within Widow's Mite and consolidates his holdings into a single 157-acre parcel. His property includes the present-day location of Dupont Circle and its immediate environs (Dorsey 1910: 12; McNeil 1991: 42, 51; Proctor 1930: 14).
CE 1790	Planned	Congress passes the Residence Act, authorizing President Washington to select a location for the new national capital measuring ten square miles or less on the Potomac River. The land contained within the modern-day borders of Washington, DC, is ceded by Prince George's County and Montgomery County, MD (Boyle 2001: 14).
CE 1791	Land Transfer	The federal government officially takes possession of the various tracts of land comprising Washington, DC, through signed agreements and deeds of trust with the original proprietors. Among these men is James Lingan, who conveys the future site of the Dupont Circle cultural landscape for use in constructing streets and avenues (Barthold 1993: 1; McNeil 1991: 42, 51).
CE 1791 - 1792	Planned	Andrew Ellicott (1754-1820) and Benjamin Banneker (1731-1806) survey the ten square mile area to be the future site of Washington, DC.

	Planned	Dupont Circle is first delineated on plans of Washington, DC, by Pierre Charles L'Enfant and Andrew Ellicott. At this time the site is not named and appears only as a large, loosely-defined open space at the convergence of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire avenues with 19th and P streets, NW. The adjacent triangular parcels (later designated as U.S. Reservations 59 and 61) do not appear on the documents, and many decades will pass before the area is actually developed according to the L'Enfant and Ellicott plans (Barthold 1993: 1, 2; Ellicott 1792; L'Enfant 1791).
CE 1791 - 1802	Land Transfer	Three city commissioners appointed by President Washington assume jurisdiction over the federal lands within the District of Columbia, including all U.S. Reservations (Dowd 1992: 1).
CE 1799	Land Transfer	The commissioners assign the triangular parcel of land bounded on the L'Enfant and Ellicott plans by Massachusetts Avenue and 18th and P streets, NW (later designated as U.S. Reservation 61) to Samuel Blodgett. It lies open and undeveloped for many decades (Croggon 1909: 12).
CE 1802 - 1817	Land Transfer	Responsibility for the U.S. reservations is transferred from the three commissioners to a Superintendent of Public Buildings, who is also appointed by the president (Dowd 1992: 1).
CE 1807	Established	The Western Burial Ground, also known as Holmead's Cemetery, is established on city square 109, at the future intersection of S Street, NW, and Florida Avenue. The remainder of the present-day Dupont Circle neighborhood remains a wilderness, save for a few scattered dwelling houses (Boschke 1857; Croggon 1906: 10).
CE 1817 - 1849	Land Transfer	The office of the Superintendent of Public Buildings is abolished and replaced by a Commissioner of Public Buildings, who takes over management of the U.S. reservations and reports directly to the president (Dowd 1992: 1).

CE 1820	Built	During the first decades of the 19th century the present-day Dupont Circle neighborhood is underdeveloped and sparsely populated, but dotted with slaughterhouses and gardens. Among the earliest examples of the former is George Walker's butcher house, built sometime before 1820 at what is today the 1100 block of Connecticut Avenue, between L and M streets, NW. John and Henry Walker carry on the business in later years. A winding stream known as Slash Run supplies water to the slaughterhouses and washes the offal out into the Potomac River (Croggon 1906: 10).
CE 1840 - 1875	Built	Brickyards flourish in the as yet unnamed and largely empty Dupont Circle neighborhood during the mid-19th century. One such business, located at 20th and P streets, NW, is reputed to have been in operation as late as 1875 (Barthold 1993: 2; Boschke 1857; Croggon 1906: 10; Proctor 1949: 368).
CE 1847	Purchased/Sold	John P. Heiss purchases the title to the triangular parcel of land bounded by Massachusetts Avenue and 18th and P streets, NW (later U.S. Reservation 61). Given the limited progress of street construction throughout Washington, it is not clear whether the property actually exists on the ground at this time or is simply demarcated on the city plan (Croggon 1909: 12).
CE 1849 - 1867	Land Transfer	Authority over the office of the Superintendent of Public Buildings is transferred to the newly-created Department of the Interior (Dowd 1992: 1).
CE 1857	Platted	Albert Boschke surveys the city of Washington and publishes a map showing the accepted street plan laid over existing conditions. Hashed areas indicate that undeveloped swaths of land remain throughout the Dupont Circle neighborhood. The circle itself is partially cut through at this time but still not clearly defined by the surrounding streets. A large complex of buildings to the west does not conform to the street grid and is probably the aforementioned slaughterhouses. The outline of the triangular parcel east of the circle at Massachusetts Avenue and 18th and P streets, NW (later U.S. Reservation 61) appears on the map but that to the west (later U.S. Reservation 59) is absent (Barthold 1993: 2; Boschke 1857).

CE 1867 - 1925	Land Transfer	The office of the Commissioner of Public Buildings is abolished. All responsibilities, including the management of the U.S. reservations, is assigned to the Chief Engineer of the Army within the War Department. A subordinate, designated as the ``Officer in Charge`` of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPB & G), takes over operations and reports to the Chief Engineer (Dowd 1992: 2).
CE 1867	Planned	In his first annual report on the public grounds of Washington, DC, Brigadier General Nathaniel Michler, the Officer in Charge, recommends that a circle be laid out ``at the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues.`` This is the first known mention of the Dupont Circle reservation in government records (AR 1867: 524; Olszewski 1967: 5).
CE 1868 - 1869	Built	Brig. General Michler reports that ``A new circle has been inclosed at the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues.`` He does not specify the type of enclosure (AR 1869: 497).
CE 1870 - 1871		Gen. Michler reports that the still-unnamed circle at the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues has ``been inclosed with a paling fence, graded, and a plan prepared for beautifying it,`` but owing to a lack of funds no additional work has been carried out (AR 1871: 978; Olszewski 1967: 5). Later statements indicate that the circle was only partially graded at this time.
CE 1871 - 1874	Built	During the short-lived tenure of Washington's territorial government, the DC Board of Public Works completes a vast spate of civic improvements in the Dupont Circle neighborhood. Slash Run is converted into a sewer, the remaining streets are cut through and paved, and water and gas lines are installed. Horse car tracks are also laid down by the Metropolitan Railroad Company to connect the neighborhood with Georgetown and preexisting sections of the city of Washington. Specifically, many of these improvements are attributed to Alexander Boss Shepherd, head of the city's Board of Public Works (Barthold 1193: 2; Reys 1991: 188-91; Wheeler 2010: 179, 181).

CE 1871 - 1872	Built	Concurrent with the neighborhood-wide efforts of the DC Board of Public Works, the Army Corps of Engineers begins a comprehensive improvement program for the Dupont Circle reservation that presumably follows the landscape plan created in 1870-71. As of June 30, 1872, Major Orville E. Babcock, the new Officer in Charge, reports that the site has been partially graded with ``some three feet of good soil.'' Gas lamps, lamp posts, and water pipes are installed, but as yet there are no trees or shrubs, walks, surrounding pavements, drainage systems, or water features. He also notes that the wooden fence erected in 1868-69 is in poor condition (AR 1872: 8, 23).
	Built	A triangular parcel of land (future U.S. Reservation 59) is created to the west of the still-unnamed Dupont Circle reservation. It is bounded by Massachusetts Avenue and 20th and P streets, NW, and Maj. Babcock describes the site as a ``vacant and unimproved'' piece of ground (AR 1872: 24).
CE 1872 - 1873	Built	The Dupont Circle reservation remains unnamed but is further improved by the addition of gas pipes and asphalt-covered gravel walks. It is also raised to conform to the grade established by the DC Board of Public Works. A black iron post-and-chain fence replaces the wood paling fence around the circle's perimeter. A later report records that the fence consists of 131 posts and 1,032 feet of chain. The site is also ``thoroughly subdrained,'' and this work includes the installation of drains for a proposed fountain, which Maj. Babcock envisions as a marble and granite basin measuring 50 feet in diameter. He also intends to plant ``a very fine selection of choice trees, evergreens...'' in the circle, and the first settees are likely installed around this time (AR 1873: 5, 14; AR 1903: 2540).
CE 1872		The Office of Public Buildings and Grounds purchased 100 settees from Druid Hill Park in Baltimore and 375 of the close pattern variety for Washington's public reservations. It is unclear how many were installed at Dupont Circle (Olszewski 1967: 16). The first trees, ash (1), ash-leaved maple (1), sycamore (1), and cedar (4) are planted on Dupont Circle (Olszewski 1967: 17).

CE 1873 - 1874	Altered	The Dupont Circle reservation, which had previously been known only as ``the circle at the intersections of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues,`` is referred to as ``Pacific Circle`` and ``Pacific Place Circle.`` The origin and meaning of these names are not definitively known, but likely relate to the circle's western location in the city and/or the early influx of money into the neighborhood from the ``California Syndicate`` - a group of wealthy investors with ties to the western United States (AR 1874: 15; Barthold 1993: 4; Olszewski 1967: 4-6; Wheeler 2010: 181).
	Planted	The first seven trees are planted in Pacific Circle: one ash, one ash-leaved maple, one sycamore, and four cedars. The annual report of 1874 describes them as large, apparently mature, specimens that had been transplanted from the Ellipse area south of the White House and other federal reservations. The circle is also presumably sodded or sown with grass seed around this time (AR 1874: 9).
CE 1874 - 1875	Maintained	The post-and-chain fence surrounding Pacific Circle is repainted for the first time and the settees repaired. Hereafter this work becomes part of the regular cyclic maintenance performed at all improved U.S. Reservations by the Army Corps of Engineers (AR 1875: 12).
CE 1876	Platted	A park plan showing the initial configuration of walks inside the circle appears in a Washington, DC, real estate atlas. The arrangement features a perimeter walkway running along the edge of the circle. A second walkway rings an open central circle of 60 feet in diameter that had been reserved for the ornamental fountain first proposed in 1872-73. Curving symmetrical walks connect the two circular walks, and the entire circulation system resembles a pinwheel (``Government Reservations within the City Boundaries`` 1876: 230, reproduced in Barthold 1993: 11).

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CE 1876 - 1878	Maintained	Lt. Colonel Thomas Lincoln Casey, the new Officer in Charge, provides additional details concerning the typical maintenance carried out at Pacific Circle. The activities include mowing, weeding, scuffling, raking, rolling and fertilizing the lawns; reseeding worn out sections of sod with blue-grass and winter rye; trimming, staking, and replacing trees and shrubs as needed; sweeping, resurfacing, and repairing the concrete walks; and filling in low-lying areas with new soil. Work of this kind is conducted regularly from this point forward (AR 1877: 11; AR 1878: 1345).
CE 1877	Planned	The annual report of 1877 notes that additional ornamental trees and vases for flowering plants are required to complete the original landscape design for Pacific Circle. It is unclear if any plants have been added to the site since the first seven trees were planted in 1873-74 (AR 1877: 11). Two drinking fountains are installed (Olszewski 1967: 11).
CE 1880 - 1881	Planted	Colonel A. F. Rockwell, the new Officer in Charge, reports that during the last fiscal year all of the improved reservation in northwest Washington were planted with flower beds and ``suitable foliage and flowering plants.`` Although no details are given as to the types of vegetation planted in any given reservation, this work would have included Pacific Circle (AR 1881: 2714).
CE 1882	Altered	Pacific Circle is officially renamed ``Dupont Circle`` by Act of Congress dated February 22, 1882. This designation is made in honor of the late Samuel Francis du Pont, Union Rear Admiral during the American Civil War. Congress also appropriates \$10,000 to fund the construction of the base for a proposed statue of du Pont and to redesign the circle's landscape around the statue (22 Stats. 4 (1882)).

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CE 1882 - 1883	Designed	A new landscape plan for Dupont Circle is created and approved. The original plan has evidently not survived, but subsequent drawings showcase a romantic concept that reflects the sensibilities of the Victorian era and is typical of the design style employed throughout Washington's small parks during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The Dupont Statue serves as the circle's central focal point amidst a complex arrangement of curvilinear walks, grass panels, flower beds, scattered trees, and clumps of shrubbery (AR 1883: 2098; Dupont Circle plan, published in AR 1886; Dupont Circle plan, published in AR 1905).
	Built	The improvement of the western triangular reservation (future U.S. Reservation 59) begins in the fall of 1882 and is completed in the following spring. During this time the reservation is enclosed with the standard black post-and-chain fence, soil is laid down and the ground sodded, trees and shrubs are planted, and a brick and stone fountain basin is constructed and fitted with water and drain pipes (AR 1883: 2098).
CE 1883	Altered	A concrete and brick foundation to support the pedestal of the Dupont Statue is installed at the center of Dupont Circle. Work begins in March 1883 and is completed in May ``by the placing in position of the bluestone damp course and granite stepping`` (AR 1883: 2098; AR 1884: 2342).
CE 1883 - 1884	Altered	The Army Corps of Engineers executes the landscape redesign for Dupont Circle. The old gravel and asphalt walks are taken up and the materials reused in constructing the new routes. Additional underground irrigation lines are laid. Some 850 ornamental trees and shrubs are planted and four flower beds prepared and stocked. Several preexisting lamp posts are relocated and two iron drinking fountains with lamp posts and lamps are installed near the center of the circle. Unlike modern drinking fountains, these models are equipped with cups to drink from, and the cups are attached to the fountains with chains. The cut granite pedestal for the Dupont Statue arrives and is placed atop its foundation, and mounds of earth are graded and sodded around it (AR 1883: 2098; AR 1884: 2342-43; AR 1889: 2840; AR 1895: 4145).

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CE 1884	Memorialized	Congress authorizes an additional \$10,500 for the completion and erection of the statue of Rear Admiral Samuel Francis du Pont in Dupont Circle. Sculptor Launt Thompson finishes work on the bronze statue and it is placed atop its pedestal on November 24, 1884. The secretary of war formally accepts it on December 3, and the statue is publically unveiled during a ceremony on December 20 (23 Stats. 4 (1884); AR 1885: 2506).
CE 1884 - 1885	Planted	New settees are installed and 850 ornamental trees and flowering shrubs are planted and flower beds are prepared and stocked (AR 1885: 2506, 2507; Olszewski 1967: 10, 17).
CE 1884 - 1886	Platted	The draughtsman employed in the office of Public Buildings and Grounds surveys Dupont Circle and its adjacent triangles and prepares a plan of the reservations. This is most likely the drawing published in the annual report of 1886, along with a list of trees and shrubs planted in the reservations. As of June 1886, Dupont Circle contains a total of 193 deciduous trees of 29 types, 609 deciduous shrubs of 33 types, and 16 evergreen trees of four types (AR 1885: 2510; AR 1886: 2104-05 and appended plan of Dupont Circle; Olszewski 1967: 12-13, 17).
CE 1885 - 1886	Planted	Bulbs are planted in the flower beds at Dupont Circle during the winter months for spring bloom. During the summer they are replaced with annual flowers. This cyclical planting becomes part of the regular maintenance of the circle and continues from year to year (AR 1886: 2078; AR 1887: 2574; 1890: 3542; AR 1891: 3907; AR 1892: 3385; AR 1895: 4145; AR 1896: 3991; AR 1897: 4044; AR 1899: 3826). Beginning in 1885, a variety of flowering and ornamental plants were installed in the circle for experimental purposes. Initially they were densely planted, but were later thinned or some varieties eliminated (Olszewski 1967: 11).
CE 1885 - 1887	Altered	An unspecified number of additional settees are placed in Dupont Circle, bringing the total number to 56 (AR 1886: 2082; AR 1887: 2578; Olszewski 1967: 16).

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CE 1886 - 1887	Damaged	Trees throughout the city of Washington are infested with caterpillars that ``in numerous instances completely stripped them of leaves.`` The office of Public Buildings and Grounds employs teams of men to remove these pests from the U.S. reservations. Controlling the caterpillars becomes part of the standard maintenance regimen (AR 1887: 2585-86; AR 1888: 2776; AR 1889: 2836; AR 1890: 3542; AR 1897: 4043; AR 1899: 3826).
	Land Transfer	By this date, the triangular parcel east of Dupont Circle is the property of the federal government. In his 1887 annual report Lt. Colonel John M. Wilson, the Officer in Charge, describes it as a vacant and unimproved piece of ground between 18th and 19th streets, NW, at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and P Street (AR 1887: 2599).
CE 1887	Established	By this date, Dupont Circle is designated as U.S. Reservation 59. The triangular parcel to the west is designated as U.S. Reservation 59, and that to the east as U.S. Reservation 59 1/2 (AR 1887: 2599).
CE 1887 - 1888	Platted	The draughtsman employed in the office of Public Buildings and Grounds creates a new map showing existing conditions at Dupont Circle. No copies of this document were discovered during the research for this CLI (AR 1888: 2787).
CE 1888 - 1889	Altered	Owing to a decrease in the available water, some of the ornamental fountains within the public grounds are shut off entirely and others run only for an hour or two during the day. This includes the fountain in Reservation 59 (AR 1889: 2840).
CE 1889 - 1890	Restored	A new 48-inch water main is installed through Dupont Circle on the line of New Hampshire Avenue. This work necessitates the temporary removal of all trees, shrubs, gas pipes, lamp posts, and drain pipes along the route. These features are replaced and the grounds restored upon completion of the project (AR 1890: 3542).
CE 1893 - 1894	Maintained	The asphalt walks in Dupont Circle are ``repaired with Portland cement, the pedestal of the Dupont statue pointed with cement, and the steps leading thereto reset`` (AR 1893: 3279).

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CE 1894	Established	By this date, Dupont Circle is redesignated as U.S. Reservation 60. The triangular parcel to the west is redesignated as U.S. Reservation 59, and that to the east as U.S. Reservation 61. These numerical classifications are not subsequently altered (AR 1894: 3302).
CE 1894 - 1895		The mounds around the Dupont Statue are regraded and resodded (AR 1895: 4145).
CE 1895 - 1896	Maintained	Worn sections of lawn along the walks in Dupont Circle are ``repaired,`` and 496 square yards of asphalt walks resurfaced (AR 1896: 3991).
CE 1896	Damaged	A hurricane strikes Washington, DC, and does ``considerable damage`` to the trees planted in the various U.S. reservations (AR 1897: 4044).
CE 1896 - 1897	Maintained	The drinking fountains in Dupont Circle are repaired and 584.09 square yards of asphalt walks resurfaced (AR 1897: 4044).
CE 1897	Moved	A watchman`s lodge is removed from the northeast corner of the White House grounds and relocated to the east side of Dupont Circle. Once moved, the lodge is thoroughly repaired. It is heated during the winter months by a coal stove (AR 1897: 4044, 4055; AR 1900: 5260).
CE 1897 - 1898	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 350.33 square yards of asphalt walks are repaired and resurfaced (AR 1898: 3726).
CE 1898	Established	An Act of Congress dated July 1, 1898, authorizes the Chief of Engineers to temporarily lease certain public grounds within Washington, DC, to the private owners of adjoining lands (30 Stats. 570 (1898)).
	Removed	The District of Columbia installs electric street lights near Dupont Circle, rendering the eight gas lamps running along the line of the post-and-chain fence surrounding the circle unnecessary. After September 25, they are no longer lit and their burners removed. The lamps and lamp posts, however, evidently remain in place (AR 1899: 3830).
CE 1898 - 1899	Built	Gas line is run to the watchman`s lodge to supply the building with nighttime light (AR 1899: 3830).

CE 1899 - 1900	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 375 square yards of asphalt walks are repaired and resurfaced (AR 1899: 3830). Soil removed during the improvement of U.S. Reservation 140 is hauled to U.S. Reservation 61 and spread over its surface to raise the level of the site, which was below the grade of the surrounding area. This is the first known landscape treatment carried out at U.S. Reservation 61, and the site is deemed ``partially improved`` (AR 1899: 3832; AR 1901: 3701).
	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 234 square yards of asphalt walks are repaired and resurfaced (AR 1900: 5252). By this time, the circle has eight gas lamps, but in 1899 their use was discontinued in the circle because the electric lights installed by the city on adjacent properties adequately illuminated the circle (Olszewski 1967: 11).
	Altered	A gas radiator is purchased and installed inside the Dupont Circle watchman's lodge, replacing the coal stove as the building's heat source (AR 1900: 5260).
CE 1900 - 1901	Platted	George H. Brown, Landscape Gardener in the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds, lists the species of all trees and shrubs planted in Dupont Circle and the various U.S. Reservations located along Massachusetts Avenue, NW. The latter apparently includes U.S. Reservation 59 but probably not U.S. Reservation 61, which is not known to have been planted by this time. The list includes 37 varieties of native and foreign deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs (AR 1900: 5290-91, 5308; Olszewski 1967: 17-21).
	Maintained	The roof of the watchman's lodge in Dupont Circle is repaired and painted. A new water pipe is also run to the circle's east drinking fountain and a new stop valve installed on the west drinking fountain (AR 1901: 3705).
	Built	Granite boundary stones marked ``U.S. P. B. G.`` are installed at the corners of U.S. Reservation 61 (AR 1901: 3701-02).

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CE 1901 - 1902	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 30 square yards of asphalt walks are repaired and resurfaced. Additionally, four old gas lamps are removed from the lamp posts and replaced with ``new boulevard gas lamps.'' The lawns are top-dressed with compost and resodded as needed. The post-and-chain fence and drinking fountains are repainted (AR 1902: 2731).
	Planted	The soil of U.S. Reservation 61 is ``loosened, sown with grass seed, and a border of sod laid. The site is now considered to be an ``improved'' reservation (AR 1902: 2733, 2745).
CE 1901 - 1926	Inhabited	Under the authority of the July 1, 1898, Act of Congress, the Chief of Engineers grants a permit allowing the Officer in Charge to lease U.S. Reservation 61 to an ``adjacent property owner.'' Although it remains federal property, the permit is in effect until at least 1926, during which time the site is occupied and used by private individuals (AR 1902: 2745; AR 1926: 48).
CE 1902 - 1903	Maintained	Approximately 108 square yards of asphalt walks are repaired and resurfaced in Dupont Circle. Additionally, the interior and exterior of the watchman's lodge, both drinking fountains, 15 lamp posts, 6 lamps, and the iron post-and-chain fence are repainted (AR 1903: 2540).
CE 1903 - 1904	Altered	The post-and-chain fence surrounding Dupont Circle is removed and replaced with 1,067 feet of quarter-round cement coping interspersed with 32 concrete ``corner posts'' at the entrances to walks. The eight lamp posts in the line of the fence, which had not been used since 1898, are also removed. An additional 190 feet of coping is installed around the Dupont statue. In order to facilitate this work, the sod and soil are removed from the affected areas, the grades raised eight inches with clay filling, the soil replaced, and double rows of new sod laid around the borders inside the coping (AR 1904: 3917-18, 3924, drawing following page 3918; Olszewski 1967: 10).
	Built	Ten new settees are placed in Dupont Circle and fastened down. Six new gas lamps and lamp posts and two additional drinking fountains are erected (AR 1904: 3924).

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CE 1904 - 1905	Maintained	The basin of the fountain in U.S. Reservation 59 is painted and the ground around the trees lining the public sidewalk is sodded (AR 1904: 3928).
	Moved	A small frame lodge house is moved from the grounds of the Smithsonian Institution on the National Mall to the east corner of U.S. Reservation 59 (AR 1904: 3928; plan of Dupont Circle published in 1905 AR).
	Platted	George H. Brown creates a landscape plan and accompanying plant list giving the locations of all trees and shrubs in Dupont Circle and U.S. Reservation 59. At this time there are 166 trees and shrubs comprising 62 different species planted in the circle and 19 American elms in the adjacent reservation (AR 1905: 2767-68 and accompanying plan of Dupont Circle).
	Maintained	The exterior of the watchman's lodge in Dupont Circle is painted, 15 old park settees are removed for repairs, and 20 new settees are installed as replacements. Bare places in the lawns are sodded and seeded, and sod borders are laid around the flower beds. Six hundred square yards of asphalt walks are resurfaced (AR 1905: 2637).
	Altered	The post-and-chain fence enclosing U.S. Reservation 59 is removed and replaced with 392 feet of quarter-round cement coping. The adjoining ground inside the reservation is graded with soil and topped with new sod. The ground around the street trees is also sodded. Additionally, the old stone fountain is removed and replaced with a cement fountain basin. Thirty-five feet of four-inch cast-iron water pipe is laid for its use and the water supply altered to accommodate the new fountain (AR 1905: 2639, 2657, 2658).
	Built	A short flagstone walk is constructed in front of the watchman's lodge in U.S. Reservation 59 running between the east façade of the building and the Dupont Circle traffic circle (AR 1905: 2639 and accompanying plan of Dupont Circle).

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CE 1905 - 1906	Maintained	A total of 1,870 square yards of sod are laid in Dupont Circle to repair worn sections of lawn and entirely recover the earthen mound around the Dupont statue. A low fence of ``iron wickets`` is installed around the coping inclosing the mound so as to prevent trespassing. Additional bare areas are sown with grass seed, and 220 square yards of asphalt walks are resurfaced. The exterior of the circle's watchman's lodge, including the roof, is painted and the window glass cleaned and frosted. One hundred park settees are also painted (AR 1906: 2128).
	Altered	Five trees are removed from U.S. Reservation 59. Low-lying areas are infilled and raised, and the reservation's surface soil is loosened and sown with grass seed (AR 1906: 2132). By 1906, 100 park benches were installed at the circle. The benches were based in concrete and sunk in the lawn to prevent their being moved with consequent landscape damage (Olszewski 1967: 16).
CE 1906 - 1907	Altered	Twelve ``partly decayed`` trees are removed from Dupont Circle so as to reduce shade and provide additional light for small shrubs and grass. All bare sections of lawn within the circle are sodded. The interior of the watchman's lodge is painted and the glass in the windows refrosted. The asphalt walks are repaired as needed, and 825 square yards resurfaced (AR 1907: 2319; Olszewski 1967: 17).
CE 1907 - 1908	Maintained	Workmen burn off the old paint on the exterior walls of the Dupont Circle watchman's lodge and replace it with four layers of fresh paint; the building's roof receives one coat of new paint. The men also repair worn places in the asphalt walks, with 64.4 square yards being resurfaced. The iron wickets, now referred to as ``hooped irons`` enclosing the mound beneath the Dupont Statue are ``reset, wired, and painted`` (AR 1908: 2391).
		The grade of the ground surrounding the fountain in U.S. Reservation 59 is raised to the level of the lower side of the basin rim. The affected area covers a distance of 15 feet out from the edge of the fountain (AR 1908: 2394).
CE 1908 - 1909	Maintained	Workmen resurface 495 square yards of asphalt walks in Dupont Circle (AR 1909: 2341).

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CE 1909 - 1910	Built	Workmen construct 3,660.6 linear feet of 2' x 4' cement coping along both edges of the walks running through Dupont Circle. The grade of the ground is changed to meet the new conditions (AR 1910: 2660; Olszewski 1967: 10).
CE 1910	Established	The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts is established by Act of Congress on May 17, 1910 (Olszewski 1967: 30).
CE 1910 - 1911	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 440 square yards of asphalt walks are resurfaced (AR 1911: 2967).
	Planted	A "thick background of deciduous shrubs" is planted on the southwest and north sides of the fountain in U.S. Reservation 59 (AR 1911: 2969).
	Moved	The watchman's lodge in U.S. Reservation 59 is moved from the triangle's east corner to its southwest corner. New sills are placed under the lodge and all woodwork repaired and repainted. The ground around the old and new locations of the building are graded and sodded (AR 1911: 2969).
CE 1911	Stabilized	In March 1911, the OPB & G determines that the foundation underlying the Dupont Statue is in "unsatisfactory condition" and temporarily removes the statue and its pedestal while a new concrete foundation is installed. The statue and pedestal are then reset and the pedestal thoroughly cleaned (AR 1911: 2967).
CE 1911 - 1912	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 150 square yards of asphalt walks are resurfaced (AR 1912: 3489).
CE 1912 - 1913	Built	A children's sand box is placed in Dupont Circle (AR 1913: 3210).
	Maintained	The sod and soil on the mound supporting the Dupont Statue is removed. The old soil is replaced with fresh soil and then sown with rye and grass seed in an effort to obtain better turf. Workmen also repair and resurface 125 square yards of worn asphalt walks within the circle (AR 1913: 3211).

CE 1914 - 1915	Built	In order to alleviate congestion along the walks in Dupont Circle, a secondary circular walk containing 1,000 square yards of gravel is constructed some 10-20 feet inside the circle's perimeter. The settees that had previously lined the preexisting cross walks and hindered pedestrian traffic are relocated to this supplemental circular walk. Four children's sand boxes enclosed by concrete copings are also built. This new construction most likely replaces or includes the sand box constructed in 1912-13 (AR 1915: 3713; Burnap 1916: 87; DSC TIC 826_80015).
	Planted	New shrubbery beds are planted in Dupont Circle (AR 1915: 3713).
CE 1915 - 1916	Planted	The OPB & G plants a total of 2,018 individual plants in Dupont Circle along with 1,188 square yards of sod. The former entails 72 deciduous trees, 773 deciduous shrubs, 170 evergreen trees, 559 evergreen shrubs, 250 perennials, 27 grasses, and 167 rose bushes. No planting list or plan is available to provide details regarding species composition or specific locations for these plants (AR 1916: 3582).
	Built	Two of the four concrete sand boxes in Dupont Circle are replaced with new boxes of a more recent design. Because there are no extant landscape plans for this time period, it is unknown which boxes are the older versions and which are the newer (AR 1916: 3582).
	Planted	The OPB & G prepares a new planting bed in U.S. Reservation 59 and plants 113 deciduous shrubs and 2 evergreen trees. No planting list or plan is available to provide details regarding species composition or specific locations for these plants (AR 1916: 3584).
	Altered	The building in U.S. Reservation 59 that had heretofore been designated as a watchman's lodge is referred to as a ``park lodge house`` for the first time. It is also remodeled and enlarged, the interior and exterior painted, new plumbing installed, and the necessary water supply and drainage connections made. Although not specifically stated in the annual report, the inclusion of public rest rooms likely dates to this remodeling project, and these alterations seem to reflect a change in the lodge's function, becoming more of a visitor-use facility at this time (AR 1916: 3584; Barthold 1993: 4).

CE 1916 - 1917	Planted	The OPB & G continues the planting work in Dupont Circle begun the previous year. In a shrubbery bed prepared in 1915-16, 340 perennials are planted as replacement specimens and to ``thicken up places that did not present a finished appearance.`` An additional 40 evergreen trees, 271 evergreen shrubs, 60 deciduous shrubs, and 150 herbaceous perennials are planted throughout the circle. As before, the lack of a planting list or plan makes it impossible to provide additional details regarding this work (AR 1917: 3702).
	Maintained	Within Dupont Circle, 60 square yards of asphalt walks are resurfaced (AR 1917: 3702).
CE 1917	Planned	Daniel Chester French, chosen to be the sculptor for Dupont Fountain, made a proposal to the du Pont family, and provides a quote of \$60,000 to design, construct, and install the fountain (duPont Fountain: 3).
	Established	By Act of Congress dated February 17, 1917, the Chief of Engineers is authorized and directed to facilitate the removal of the Dupont Statue and its pedestal and foundation and replace it with a new memorial. The family is to pay all costs associated with the removal of the old statue and its associated furnishings, and finance the design, construction, and installation of the new memorial. The design of the new memorial must be approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, and upon its completion the statue and pedestal are to be turned over to the family for re-erection outside the District of Columbia (39 Stats. 944 (1917)).
CE 1917 - 1918	Established	The Commission of Fine Arts approves Daniel Chester French's design for an allegorical fountain to replace the Dupont Statue at the center of Dupont Circle. The Commission also selects architect Henry A. Bacon to execute the design in marble (DSC TIC 826_80009; Olszewski 1967: 33).
CE 1918 - 1919	Planted	Three hundred deciduous shrubs and 75 evergreens are planted in Dupont Circle. As before, the lack of a planting list or plan makes it impossible to provide additional details regarding this work (AR 1919: 3822).

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	Maintained	The children's sand boxes in Dupont Circle are filled with four tons of new sand (AR 1919: 3822).
	Planted	Twelve deciduous shrubs are planted in U.S. Reservation 59. Their species composition and specific locations are not known (AR 1919: 3824).
CE 1919	Designed	The OPB & G drafts plans for a pump house to supply water to the upcoming Dupont Memorial Fountain. The proposal calls for the pump house to be located in U.S. Reservation 61, but the building is apparently never constructed. A subsequent request for funding states that the installed motor and pump ``provides that the fountain shall be operated by using the same water over and over again`` but does not mention a dedicated pump house (AR 1921: 2087; DSC TIC 826_80010; DSC TIC 826_80018).
	Built	In July, French learns from the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds that a water shortage in Washington would prevent the city from running water continuously through the fountain. Chester commented that A dry fountain is a pitiful spectacle and in this case the water is absolutely necessary for the effect. This water shortage led to the installation of a water pump that would reuse the water in the fountain (Dupont Fountain: 3).
CE 1920	Removed	The annual report of 1907 contains the last known reference to the Dupont Circle watchman's lodge. The building does not appear on a November, 1920, site survey and is therefore assumed to have been removed sometime in the intervening 13 years (AR 1907: 2319; DSC TIC 826_80015).

	Platted	Irving W. Payne, Landscape Architect of the OPB & G, conducts a landscape survey of Dupont Circle in November 1920. The surviving copy of the resultant plan is now partially illegible but shows the existing circulation system and the future locations of the Dupont Memorial Fountain, four ovoid planting beds, four children's sandboxes, and more than 70 trees encompassing more than 20 different species (bald cypress, beech, birch, blue beech, box elder, camperdown elm, Chinese varnish tree, Chinese weeping cypress, elm, hemlock, horse chestnut, Kentucky coffee tree, linden, maple, oak, red maple, sweet gum, sycamore, thorn tree, white pine, and wild crabapple). A dead tree is also shown in the northeast quadrant of the circle (DSC TIC 826_80015).
CE 1920 - 1921	Memorialized	In August 1920, the OPB & G begins the work of removing the Dupont Statue and replacing it with the new Dupont Memorial Fountain. The fountain is in place by April 1921, and dedicated during a May 17 ceremony. The final cost of project is \$77,521, paid for by the Dupont family. The U.S. government in turn conveys the Dupont Statue and its pedestal to the family, who re-erect them in Rockford Park in Wilmington, Delaware (AR 1921: 2062; AR 1922: 2198; AR 1929: 55; Goode 1974: 527; InTowner, 2004: 12; Olszewski 1967: 34).
	Planned	Lt. Colonel C. O. Sherrill, the Officer in Charge, petitions Congress for \$10,000 to be used in redesigning Dupont Circle and another \$2,500 for the operation, care, repair, and maintenance for the pumps that operate the Dupont Memorial Fountain. Regarding the former, he argues that the recent installation of the fountain and increased pedestrian traffic ``necessitate changing the planting and the construction of a new walk layout`` (AR 1921: 2081, 2087).
CE 1920 - 1929	Altered	In order to accommodate increasing traffic, Connecticut Avenue is widened in the 1920s (Barthold 1993: 5).

CE 1921	Designed	Landscape architect Payne submits a new design for the Dupont Circle circulation system on February 21, 1921. Although approved, the project is not carried out, presumably because of a lack of funding. The drawing, entitled ``General Plan of New Walks,`` shows the existing curvilinear cross walks overlaid by a proposed system of ten straight walks radiating outward from the fountain along the centerlines of the surrounding city roads. The two outer circular walks remain, and all of the walks within the circle are to be of concrete construction with a brush finish on the surface. The plan also features an elaborate circular plaza around the Dupont Memorial Fountain that is composed of bands of grass lawn, exposed brush aggregate cement, brush-finished cement, and Belgian block pavement. The majority of the extant trees within the circle are to be retained, including those within the lines of the proposed radial walks, but the trees inside the boundaries of the plaza will be removed. A p
CE 1924	Platted	The OPB & G conducts an onsite survey of Dupont Circle and records the important information regarding its landscape features. The circular walkway around the perimeter of the circle has by this time been paved in concrete and runs 1,166 linear feet, is 15 feet wide, and encompasses an area of 17,490 square feet. The secondary circular gravel walk measures 758 feet in length with an area of 9,096 square feet. The total length of all the interior asphalt walks is 2,272.12 feet with an area of 22,710.57 square feet. The circle also contains 5,207.80 linear feet of stone coping amounting to 2,316.66 square feet in area. Under the category of fencing, there are listings for 198 linear feet of ``strand wire`` and 246.60 linear feet of ``trespass irons.`` Eighty-three trees of various species are planted throughout the circle, as are 12,423 square feet of shrub beds. The total lawn area amounts to 50,225.93 square feet, more than half of Dupont Circle's entire 2.28-acre area. In addition to
CE 1925	Land Transfer	The office of Public Buildings and Grounds is abolished. The new Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital (OPB & PP) takes over management of the U.S. reservations and the director reports directly to the president (Dowd 1992: 2).

CE 1925 - 1926	Maintained	During July, 1925, and June, 1926, the OPB & PP cleans all of the children's sand boxes throughout the city and fills them with ``double-washed silver sand.`` The annual report of 1926 records that only three sand boxes are present in Dupont Circle, but subsequent surveys and landscape designs show four boxes. Given that there is no mention of the removal and subsequent reconstruction of a sand box in Dupont Circle, the statement in the 1926 annual report is most likely an error and all four boxes remain in place at this time (AR 1926: 30; DSC TIC 826_80024; DSC TIC 826_80027).
CE 1929 - 1930	Designed	The OPB & PP produces planting plans for Dupont Circle and U.S. Reservation 59. The locations of these plans and their contents are currently unknown (AR 1930: 41).
CE 1930 - 1931	Maintained	The children's sand boxes are cleaned and refilled with new silver sand. The annual reports again state that only three boxes are located in Dupont Circle, but four are probably still present at this time (AR 1930: 52; AR 1931: 53; DSC TIC 826_80024; DSC TIC 826_80027).
CE 1930	Built	The Engineering Division of the OPB & PP produces specifications and plans for a new lodge building to be constructed in U.S. Reservation 59. The contract drawings call for a 1-story brick lodge and comfort station measuring approximately 20' x 30' in plan and containing men's and women's restrooms and accommodations for the park police. The building is to be electrically heated and lighted. A contract in the amount of \$7,841 is awarded to the firm of Bahen & Wright on June 23, 1930, for its construction, which takes place between July 1 and September 25, 1930. There is no further mention of the old watchman's lodge in U.S. Reservation 59, and it is assumed to have been removed (AR 1930: 36; AR 1931: 32; DSC TIC 826_80022).
CE 1932 - 1933	Platted	The OPB & PP conducts two topographic surveys of Dupont Circle. In addition to mapping the contours of the ground, the surveys record that 73 trees are planted onsite, nearly all of which also appear in the earlier 1920 survey (DSC TIC 826_80015; DSC TIC 826_80023; DSC TIC 826_80027).

	Designed	The OPB & PP redesigns Dupont Circle. The new walk layout features 10 radial walks, a circular plaza around the fountain, and retains the pair of circular walks running around the perimeter of the site. It is very similar to the circulation system proposed in 1921, but in the new design only four of the 10 lateral walks (those continuing from 19th Street and New Hampshire Avenue) are placed along the centerlines of their respective city roads. The remaining six walks (along P Street and Connecticut and Massachusetts avenues) are arranged on the lines of the sidewalks in the adjacent city blocks. All of the radial walks flare outward slightly upon meeting the outermost circular walkway ringing Dupont Circle. The plans also call for the installation of new concrete copings for flower beds, a total of three drinking fountains, four new concrete sandboxes, eight concrete benches, and a lawn sprinkling system. Most preexisting trees are to be retained, except those occupying the future pla
CE 1933	Land Transfer	The OPB & PP is abolished by Executive Order, and on June 10, 1933, its functions and responsibilities pass to the new Office of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations. The new office also takes possession of all federal property formerly administered by the OPB & PP, including the U.S. reservations (Dowd 1992: 2-3, 77).
	Altered	Dupont Circle is redeveloped. The work performed closely matches the 1932-33 designs, except that only three drinking fountains are actually installed. A ca. 1933 drawing entitled ``Spot Plan for Tree Surgery Work`` shows that 63 of the 73 trees that had been in place prior to the start of this project are still extant (DSC TIC 826_80023; DSC TIC 826_80027; DSC TIC 826_80035; Olszewski 1967: 36).
CE 1934	Planned	Extremely heavy traffic around Dupont Circle leads city planners to attempt to ban traffic from the circle altogether. This effort fails, but may have been the catalyst for the future Dupont Circle underpass along Connecticut Avenue (Barthold 1993: 5).

	Land Transfer	The Office of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations is redesignated as the National Park Service (NPS). The NPS assumes the functions, responsibilities, and administration of all federal lands formerly managed by the Office of National Parks, Buildings, and Reservations, including the U.S. Reservations (Heine 1953: 36).
CE 1934 - 1936	Damaged	Because the base of the Dupont Memorial Fountain rests six feet below the surrounding grade of Dupont Circle, it is more accessible than most other such memorials in Washington, DC, which typically sit atop mounds or pedestals. Consequently, children often venture into the lower basin, leading to the breaking of the fingers and other parts of the sculptural figures. Because of the low grade, trash also accumulates in the fountain. These negative effects have presumably been present for years, but either increase in severity around this time or are better documented after the NPS takes over management of the site (Olszewski 1967: 37-38).
CE 1936	Planted	In an effort to prevent children from playing in the Dupont Memorial Fountain and lessen the amount of trash accumulating there, the NPS drafts a plan calling for a barrier of 270 firethorn bushes to be planted around the fountain (DSC TIC 826_80041). This plan, or one very similar to it, is carried out shortly thereafter (Olszewski 1967: 37-38).

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CE 1936 - 1943	Planned	By the 1930s, increased automobile use within the District of Columbia has resulted in growing traffic congestion on city streets, particularly the heavily used downtown circles. Conditions are particularly bad at Dupont Circle, and as a result the first known study to gather data for a proposed underpass beneath Dupont Circle is conducted by the DC Engineer's Office in 1936. Many additional studies follow, and the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission approve of the idea in principle. The NPS recognizes that such a project will necessarily entail the excavation of Dupont Circle and the temporary removal of the Dupont Memorial Fountain. NPS Director Otto B. Cammerer does not oppose the work, provided that the fountain is reinstalled and the landscape returned to satisfactory condition. However, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes, does not approve of any surface work whatsoever. This impasse, and the outbreak of World War II, effectively st
CE 1939	Removed	Owing to unsanitary conditions, the NPS removes the four sandboxes from Dupont Circle (Barthold 1993: 5; Olszewski 1967: 44-45).
CE 1943	Removed	The NPS removes the ``inner half`` of the firethorn hedge around the Dupont Memorial Fountain. This decision stems from repeated complaints received from members of the du Pont family and other individuals displeased that the hedge obscured the inscription at the base of the fountain. After the hedge is cut back, pedestrians are able to walk around the fountain and read its inscription (Olszewski 1967: 38-39).
	Established	Congress directs that additional plans be prepared for the Dupont Circle underpass in the 1943 District Appropriation Bill. This action essentially revitalizes the stalled project (Olszewski 1967: 52).
CE 1944 - 1948	Planned	The District of Columbia continues to gather data and draft plans concerning the Dupont Circle underpass. Moreover, the DC Commissioners, DC Highway Department, and the NCPPC work together in order to reach an agreement on all phases of the construction project (DSC TIC 826_80057; DSC TIC 826_80058; DSC TIC 826_80059; DSC TIC 826_80060; DSC TIC 826_80065; DSC TIC 826_80066; Olszewski 1967: 52).

CE 1945 - 1950	Designed	The NPS produces a series of designs depicting proposed alterations to the landscape features of Dupont Circle stemming from the continued planning of the underpass. The most prodigious change concerns the circle's internal circulation system, which will be altered but retain its overall character. The final plan is approved by the NPS director on March 21, 1950, with revisions made on June 15, 1950. It decreases the number of radial walks from 10 to six, which are to be located along the centerlines of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire avenues. The creation of vistas along the avenues figure prominently in this design, and the Commission of Fine Arts had stressed the particular importance of the Connecticut Avenue viewing corridor as early as 1938. additionally, the width of the outermost circular walk (around the outside edge of Dupont Circle) is to be reduced down to four feet so as to accommodate additional automobile traffic around Dupont Circle. The existing coping wi
CE 1946 - 1947	Established	The DC Commissioners authorize construction of the Dupont Circle underpass and the District agrees to assume responsibility for returning the landscape to satisfactory conditions following the completion of the project. The final accepted plan entails a tunnel with sufficient room to accommodate automobile traffic and the streetcar line. Aboveground congestion around Dupont Circle will also be reduced through the creation of an inner lane reserved for traffic continuing along Massachusetts Avenue and an outer lane for autos approaching the circle and exiting onto any of the other streets. The two lanes would be divided by medians with breaks at Massachusetts Avenue (Barthold 1993: 5; Olszewski 1967: 53).
CE 1947 - 1950	Excavated	Construction of the underpass begins on May 15, 1947, and continues for three years. During this time, Dupont Circle is closed to the public and excavated, and the Dupont Memorial Fountain is temporarily removed. Government records also indicate that plantings in U.S. Reservation 59 experience minor damage during the project (Barthold 1993: 5; Olszewski 1967: 37, 39-41, 53).

	Excavated	Concurrent with the Connecticut Avenue underpass, two semicircular tunnels for streetcars are constructed to reduce traffic.
CE 1948 - 1950	Removed	The Dupont Fountain is dismantled in March of 1948 and is later reconstructed in March of 1950 when the underpass is finished (Dupont Memorial Fountain to Admiral Dupont: SEE Chronology. will need help with full citation).
CE 1949	Built	The streetcar underpass along Connecticut Avenue is completed (Barthold 1993: 5).
CE 1950	Planned	Commission of Fine Arts discusses and recommends raising Dupont Memorial Fountain. In connection with the re-erection of the Dupont Memorial Fountain, on completion of the Dupont Circle underpass, the Commission recommends that it would be desirable to raise the fountain one foot so as to make the inscription visible to the public (Commission of Fine Arts, 2/20/50).
	Planned	Secretary of the Commission of Fine Arts, H.P. Caemmerer agrees with Harry Thompson, Assistant Superintendent of National Capital Parks, regarding raising the fountain and basin (2/9/50 letter from Caemmerer; copied from Commission of Fine Arts).
	Established	With work on the roadway portion of the Dupont Circle underpass nearing completion, the NPS and the DC Highway Department reach an agreement specifying the responsibilities of each body toward the upcoming repairs to the Dupont Circle landscape. The NPS will provide \$12,000 to be spent on cultivating, seeding, and fertilizing the ground; planting trees and shrubs, minor restoration of plantings at U.S. Reservation 59, and construction of the permanent benches. The District will be responsible for the construction of all walks and coping; resetting the Dupont Memorial Fountain and making the necessary pump, water, and sewer connections; relocating four park lights; relocating and connecting the three drinking fountains; installing seven Mueller boxes; and laying down topsoil as needed. The agreement is formally approved on March 27, 1950 (Olszewski 1967: 36-37).

	Built	The roadway underpass is completed and dedicated on May 16, 1950 (Barthold 1993: 5; Olszewski 1967: 41, 53).
CE 1950 - 1951	Altered	It is unclear precisely when the NPS and the DC Highway Department carry out the required landscape repairs at Dupont Circle and U.S. Reservation 59, but photographs show that the work has been completed by June 1951, at the latest. As far as is known, the project follows the revised plan of June 15, 1950. During its reinstallation at the center of the circle, the Dupont Memorial Fountain is raised one foot so that the inscription will not be obscured (Olszewski 1967: 41; photographs in NCR CLP Files, Reservation 60).
CE 1950 - 1964	Designed	Shortly after its reinstallation, the Dupont Memorial Fountain is again damaged by inappropriate public use. Trash also continues to accumulate in the basin. Citizens are displeased over the unsightly condition of the fountain, but many are also frustrated by a lack of access to the fountain. The NPS receives many letters of complaint expressing both opinions and consequently drafts several plans for possible landscape treatments. Some feature a metal fence that would act as a further barrier to pedestrian intrusion, while others increase access through the addition of steps leading down to a new circular walk immediately around the fountain basin (DSC TIC 826_80056; DSC TIC 826_80079; DSC TIC 826_80080; Olszewski 1969: 57-59).
CE 1950		Reservation 59 Planting Plan (NAMA Drawing folder)
CE 1951	Built	In June, D.C. engineers discover that no drain was installed in the vault under the Dupont Fountain and have to go back in and construct one (Dupont Memorial Fountain to Admiral Dupont: SEE Chronology. will need help with full citation).

CE 1956	Planted	By this date, the hedge of three-spine barberry, which was originally 12-feet wide when planted around the Dupont Memorial Fountain in 1950-51, has been reduced to six feet in width. A two-inch concrete edging rings its outer perimeter, followed by a 5' 8 1/2"-wide firethorn hedge. This change in planting was probably an attempt by the NPS to reduce the inappropriate public use of the fountain without erecting a fence (DSC TIC 826_80056).
CE 1958	Planted	An evergreen tree is donated to the NPS by the state of Connecticut and planted in Dupont Circle. The Connecticut Avenue Businessmen's Association is annually granted permission to install Christmas tree lights on the "Connecticut" evergreen for many years (Olszewski 1967: 65).
CE 1961	Abandoned	Only 11 years after construction, the trolley tunnels under Dupont Circle are closed (Wheeler 2010: 191). NPS representatives meet with sculptor Vincent Tonelli. Tonelli gives them an estimate on repairs to the Dupont Fountain's statues, including Replacement of the lower arm and hand of male figure; repair lips, nose and ear, rebuild nose of female figure; recarve head of dove. Penciled notes indicate that this work order (#C-220) is completed in May of 1961 (Dupont Memorial Fountain to admiral Dupont: SEE Chronology. will need help with full citation).
CE 1964	Built	On May 7, 1964, Assoc. Regional Director Robert C. Horne settles the ongoing debate over access to the Dupont Memorial Fountain by authorizing construction of an iron fence around the shrubbery surrounding the fountain. Twenty-nine panels of fencing 18 inches in height are fabricated and erected by August 10. However, within a matter of days Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall intervenes and orders the fence removed (Olszewski 1967: 58-60) (Washington Post Image-11/3/65--Commission of fine Arts Folder)
CE 1965	Designed	Owing to Sec. Udall's decision, the NPS drafts and approves new plans for the construction of a new circular walk and six sets of steps leading to the fountain basin. (DSC TIC 826_80084; Olszewski 1967: 60-61).

	Altered	The removal of the iron fence and the installation of the walk and steps leading to the base of the Dupont Memorial Fountain is completed in November 1965 (Olszewski 1967: 61; Washington Post, Oct. 17, 1965).
CE 1965 - 1966	Designed	The NPS produces a new seasonal planting plan for Dupont Circle. The accompanying plant list specifies that 5,460 pansies are to be planted in spring 1965; 4,500 yellow spun gold marigolds in summer 1965; 1,120 yellow supreme mums in fall 1965; 4,500 pink magic petunias in summer 1966; and 1,120 mango mums in fall 1966. The plan does not specify locations for these plants, but it appears that they are to occupy six beds intersected by the six radial walks leading to the Dupont Memorial Fountain. An additional 560 snowflake candytuft plants are to be installed in 18-inch-wide beds flanking the walks along the centerline of Connecticut Avenue. Since candytuft is a perennial, these plants will provide year-round foliage and are not to be cut back after planting (DSC TIC 826_80082).
CE 1966	Planted	It is unclear whether or not the annuals described above are actually planted, but the snowflake candytuft plants are apparently planted in 1966 (DSC TIC 826_80082; DSC TIC 826_80094).
CE 1967 - 1968	Designed	The NPS produces new landscape studies for Dupont Circle calling for repairs to benches, new exposed aggregate paving on walks, new seasonal floral displays, replacement of dead or decayed portions of hedges, the resodding of the beds formerly occupied by the snowflake candytuft plants, and the installation of a new sandbox. All of this work, with the exception of the sandbox, is probably carried out (DSC TIC 826_80092; DSC TIC 826_80093; DSC TIC 826_80094).
CE 1968	Built	Construction specs are prepared to install Belgian blocks set in concrete between the existing steps around the fountain. The Belgium block is later installed.
CE 1969	Designed	Plans are drawn up for a new lawn sprinkler system in Dupont Circle (DSC TIC 826_41000).

CE 1973	Designed	The NPS proposes to install 10 outdoor chess tables in the northern section of Dupont Circle and another six tables in the southeast section. The installation of a sandbox is once again proposed (DSC TIC 826_80097).
CE 1979	Designed	The NPS produces a revised tree planting plan for Dupont Circle calling for a total of 25 new trees: 1 magnifica hackberry, 1 weeping green beech, 2 Carolina silverbells, 1 goldenrain tree, 4 `regent` variety Japanese pagoda trees, 13 Dutch elms, 1 `village green` variety Japanese Zelkova. These trees primarily take the places of the same or similiar trees that have died since the underpass redevelopment in the early 1950s and are therefore mostly in-kind replacements (DSC TIC 826_80070; DSC TIC 826_80098).
CE 1986	Designed	The NPS produces a new tree planting plan for Dupont Circle. As with the 1979 plan, this 1986 plan focuses on the in-kind replacement of dead or decaying specimens and calls for a total of five new trees (one sycamore, three Japanese pagoda trees, one little-leaf linden) and 300 little-leaf holly shrubs These plants are in addition to the following vegetation, which is already extant at this time: one Norway spruce, one sycamore, three willow oaks, 11 Japanese pagoda trees, 3 Japanese Stewartia trees, 2 bald cypress, 4 little-leaf lindens, 26 American elms, one Scotch elm, three Japanese Zelkovas, and 440 little-leaf holly shrubs (DSC TIC 826_80101).
CE 1994	Designed	Dupont Down Under plans are developed by Architect Eric Colbert & Associates for Dupont Down Under Associates. Work includes creating an entrance canopy over street car entrance stairway.
CE 1995	Rehabilitated	Dupont Down Under is officially opened.
CE 1994	Altered	Site visit to Reservation 60 finds several issues with park. They include, a social trail leading from New Hampshire Avenue to P Street; shrubs throughout appear to be in poor condition; grass cover is thin in lawn panels; several of the concrete sidewalks have low areas which collect water causing people to walk on the grass; replacement hand on fountain sculpture is overscale and needs re-replacement; and there is a leak in fountain.

CE 1995	Planned	Superintendent discusses improvements to Reservation 59. Recommendations include restoring the comfort station and installing a unisex bathroom; using an historic lease to allow for the restoration and conversion of the structure into an entrepreneurial vender; increasing greenspace in the reservation; and installing a police sub-station in the comfort station (memo to superintendent from landscape architect, 1995).
	Rehabilitated	Reservation 60 is rehabilitated. Work includes enlarging the planting bed around center plaza and installing black steel edging around it; planting pyracanthus gnome (355 quantity) and installing black steel edging; replacing concrete drinking fountains with accessible fountains; adding cast concrete legs for bench extension work; extending granite sets around game tables; completing bench extensions, both outer and inner; adding berberis gladwynensis william penn barberry; reconstructing select walks around barberry plantings. The long range plans are to replace the sodium vapor lamps with metal halide lamps and to replace existing light poles with Washington Globe poles and lamps.
	Planted	One -liberty sycamore (<i>Plantanus occidentalis</i> 'liberty'), two Regent Japanese Pagodatree-(<i>Sophora japonica</i> 'regent'), and one little leaf linden (<i>Tilia cordata</i>) are planted at Reservation 60.
CE 1996	Rehabilitated	The trolley tunnels are rehabilitated as a food court named Dupont Down Under. The enterprise is short-lived and failed miserably.
	Abandoned	Request by Dupont Circle Citizens Association to seal 4 entrances to Dupont Down Under. DCCA has worked for 18 months to convert blighted P Street comfort station into a satellite police station and community center. Article mentions that the \$100,000 project will provide space for DC and NPS police to fill out reports,etc. The project also calls for creating a space in which community groups can hold meetings. It is projected that this work will help decrease crime in area (Gays help lobby for resource center, The Washington Blade, 1998).

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CE 1996 - 1998	Rehabilitated	Reservation 59's landscape is rehabilitated. Work includes relocating vegetation and adding flower beds, wrought iron fencing around community center, additional metro shelters, Washington Globe light standards, and a new concrete sidewalk and curbing (NAMA Archives, includes site plan in NAMA drawing folder).
CE 1998	Memorialized	Ribbon cutting is held for the newly rehabilitated community center on Reservation 59.
CE 2000 - 2003	Rehabilitated	Rehabilitation work is completed at Dupont Circle (See series of existing conditions images from 9-12-01; 5 plans from January 21, 2000). Detailed plans from January 21, 2000 show existing conditions as well as proposed work. These plans include plumbing upgrades for the drinking fountains and center constructed water feature, maintenance to the constructed water feature, replacement of damaged plaza and walkway concrete and other architectural details, and electrical updates. (Summary of Work NPS?) Photos from August 12, 2001 show the current conditions of the space during the project. On January 28, 2003 95% of the rehabilitation work has been completed. (Letter to Mr. Duong Bui at DDOT from Arnold Goldstein, Superintendent Dupont Circle; Correspondence dated January 28, 2003).
CE 2000	Rehabilitated	Rehabilitation of Dupont Circle work includes rehabilitating fountain and plaza, removing and replacing misaligned plaza and walkway concrete plaza; installing new post and chain fencing and new low metal wicket fencing.
CE 2001		Various emails sent between Frederick Lindstrom, CFA and employee from the NPS regarding the installation of post and chain fencing at Dupont Circle (for maintenance purposes). Lindstrom is concerned that the NPS did not go through standard protocol in constructing fences. It is not covered in the programmatic agreement under repair and maintenance, and the NPS should have gone to the DC SHPO (NAMA).

		In a letter from DC Councilmember Jack Evans to John G. Parsons of the NPS National Capital Region, Evans expresses concern over the aesthetics and practical function of the fencing which is being installed around the perimeter and within the interior of the park, and he advises that the NPS should submit this project to review under section 106. In response, the park service states that the project has undergone section 106 review and was found to fall under a programmatic exclusion. It also alludes to the project involving installation of post-and-chain fencing (Evans 2001). Jury's Hotel installs chrome flood lights on building which casts down on Dupont Circle. While many citizens and the Dupont Circle advisory Neighborhood Commission are upset that it makes the park look like a prison yard or football field..., the NPS and some businesses supported the lights for improving the safety of the park (The Jury's Out on Hotel's Lights, Washington Post, 2/23/01).
	Removed	Jury's Hotel removes lights (email dated 3/16/2001)
CE 2004 - 2005	Rehabilitated	Rehabilitation of Dupont Circle, Rawlins Park, and Franklin Park is completed substantially in accordance with the plans and specifications as of May 10, 2004. As of June 17, 2004 all but one item has been completed (Look for As built; Contract No. C3000 01 0046). (Letter of Substantial Completion - Rawlins Park from Gary Pieruccioni Division of Contracting, to Javier G. Garcete, The JG Garcete Co., Inc.
CE 2006	Rehabilitated	Rehabilitation of Connecticut Avenue, NW Underpass at Dupont Circle is approved by NAMA on November 29, 2006. The project consists of planting 52 Pyracantha angustifolia 'Gnome' shrubs as well as annual flowers. Stockpiled garden soil is placed on the top layer of flower beds (NAMA Archives).
CE 2008	Removed	Trash receptacles are removed from plaza/hedge (Qty 9) New trash receptacles are installed along each of six radial sidewalks. Placed 6 new receptacles at the end of the post and chain fence, opposite the existing light poles.

Physical History:

PRE- HISTORY, 8000 BC TO 1632

The Washington, DC area has been inhabited by humans for approximately 13,000 years. Early residents of the Potomac Valley began to establish seasonal fishing sites and camps along the Potomac River in the Archaic Period (c. 8,000 BC to 1,300 BC). Over the course of the Middle Woodland period (c. 200 BC to 900 AD), longer term settlements were established followed by the founding of villages during the Late Woodland Period (c. 900 AD to 1608 AD) (Bedell et al 2008 Volume 1: 3-6 and 11-38).

When Europeans began heavily exploring North America in the latter half of the 1500s, the tidewater portion of Maryland was home to a number of Algonquian-speaking American Indian groups. With the exception of the tribes of the Patuxent River, the groups were part of the Conoy chiefdom. Their territory extended from “St. Mary’s County, Maryland, at the mouth of the Potomac River, to Washington, DC, and the falls, possibly including lands on the Virginia side of the Potomac River from opposite Washington to below Mount Vernon” (Potter 1993: 19). Settlements belonging to the Nacotchtank and the Piscataways, two groups among the Conoy chiefdom, were located in or near present day Washington, DC. A Nacotchtank village was located near the confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers on the site of present day Bolling Air Force Base (Bushong 1990: 12). The Piscataway, the largest and most politically powerful group of the Conoys, settled along the Piscataway Creek where it meets the Potomac River, approximately twenty miles from Washington.

In the late 1990s, an archeological study conducted prior to the commencement of construction project along the Whitehurst Freeway uncovered an American Indian camp southwest of Dupont Circle near the mouth of Rock Creek. One significant find from the study was described as a “spectacular burial” (Berger 2008 Volume I: 6). The burial contained the remains of an adult, likely a 30 to 40 year old woman who, according to radio carbon testing, was likely buried between 640AD to 790AD. Artifacts buried with the human remains resemble those found in the graves of the Kipp Island phase of central New York, which stretched from the Great Lakes to the Delmarva Peninsula. This is a significant find for archeologists and historians trying to determine when coastal Algonquians migrated to the Chesapeake region from the northwest. “This burial...may represent the entry of Algonquin people into the region and therefore date their arrival to around AD 600 to 700” (Berger 2008 Volume I: 8).

Artifacts found at the Whitehurst Freeway site dated to around 1000AD and included at least 11 triangular stone arrowheads, nuts, seeds, and wood charcoal. The site was likely not a farming site, but a temporary camp. A small pit examined included Townsend potsherds, a type used by Coastal Plain Indians between 800 and 1500AD. Two of the potsherds were radiocarbon dated to 885 to 1035AD and 995 to 1205AD. This finding indicates Washington was part of the Coastal Plain culture area throughout the Late Woodland period. The potsherds differentiate the American Indians groups in Washington from peoples of the Piedmont area who utilized another pottery type. Artifacts dating to the arrival of Europeans in the area were also found and indicate that traditional Indian life continued in Washington after the founding of

the Maryland colony (Berger 2008 Volume I:7).

COLONIAL SETTLEMENT AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT, 1632 AD TO 1867

In 1632, King Charles I granted a royal charter of the land that would become the state of Maryland and later Washington, DC, to George Calvert, 1st Lord Baltimore, and his heirs. The first land grants issued for property that would be a part of the nation's capital were patented in 1664 and were part of Charles County, Maryland. That same year, "The Widow's Mite," a 600-acre parcel of land located primarily within the future federal city and upon which Dupont Circle would be constructed, was surveyed for John Langworth. In 1686, a land patent was issued to Langworth's son, William. In 1714, Thomas Fletchall purchased "The Widow's Mite" and constructed a house near the present-day intersection of 19th and M streets and south of the site of the future circle. Following his death, "The Widow's Mite" was divided into several parcels and sold to a number of buyers (McNeil 1991: 35-51; Proctor 1930: 13).

In 1790, Congress passed the Residence Act authorizing President Washington to select a site for the new nation's capital. Shortly thereafter, Washington announced he had chosen a location at the confluence of the Potomac and Eastern Branch (Anacostia) rivers (L'Enfant Plan of the City of Washington National Register (NR) Nomination Form, 1994: 8:6, hereafter referred to as NR 1994). By that time, General James M. Lingan (1751-1812) had acquired nearly 157 acres of "The Widow's Mite" tract. His portion of the parcel was incorporated into the new capital. Lingan's house was located "in the center of what is now Nineteenth Street between M and N Streets" (Dorsey 1910: 12). This property, along with all the other land that became part of the city, was given in a trust to the federal government (Dorsey 1910: 12; Sherwood 1974: 1; McNeil 1991: 39, 51).

Following Washington's selection of the site, he appointed three Commissioners to survey the city and oversee the construction of government buildings. Andrew Ellicott (1754-1820) and Benjamin Banneker (1731-1806) conducted a survey of the area and in March 1791, Major Pierre Charles L'Enfant (1755-1825) was chosen by Washington to prepare drawings for the new city. L'Enfant's plan consisted of grand avenues radiating from the sites he designated for the "Congress house," where the Capitol would be constructed, and the "President's house," as well as other points in Washington. The large avenues intersected with squares and circles interspersed throughout the city. Public spaces were a significant part of L'Enfant's vision for the city. On his plan he identified 15 open spaces, later called reservations, at the intersections of his grand avenues and noted that they be "divided among several States in the Union, for each of them to improve, or subscribe a sum additional to the value of the land for that purpose." L'Enfant specified that the public spaces would include statues and memorials honoring significant individuals (Figure 1) (L'Enfant 1791; NR 1994: 8:6-8).

Dupont Circle is first delineated on both the L'Enfant and Ellicott's plans of Washington. The site is not named and appears on the L'Enfant plan as a large, loosely-defined open space at the convergence of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire avenues with 19th and P streets, NW. Ellicott's plan gives more definition to the site and is represented as a circle. Although the adjacent triangular parcels (later designated as U.S. Reservations 59 and 61) do not appear on the documents, by 1799, the commissioners appointed by President Washington,

assigned one of the triangular parcels (later designated Reservation 61) to Samuel Blodgett. However, many decades will pass before this area and the other triangular reservations are actually developed according to the L'Enfant and Ellicott plans (Figure 2) (Barthold 1993: 1, 2; Ellicott 1792; L'Enfant 1791).

The city's growth was slow during the first decades of the 1800s. At that time, the U.S. reservations were transferred from the three commissioners to a Superintendent of Public Buildings, which by 1817, was abolished and replaced by the Commissioner of Public Buildings. The present-day Dupont Circle neighborhood was populated by a small number of residences, taverns and industrial operations. A few slaughterhouses and butchering shops were located south of the future circle. A winding stream known as Slash Run ran through the area and supplied water to the slaughterhouses and washed the offal out into the Potomac River. In 1807, the Western Burial Ground, also known as Holmead's Cemetery, was established at the future intersection of S Street, NW, and Florida Avenue. In the mid-1800s a number of successful brickyards opened in the neighborhood and operated there until the 1870s. Also, in 1947, John P. Heiss purchased the title to the triangular parcel of land bounded by Massachusetts Avenue and 18th and P streets (later designated Reservation 61) (Barthold 1993: 2; Boschke 1857; Croggon 1906: 10; Proctor 1949: 368).

By the mid-1850s, there was renewed interest in improving and developing the city of Washington and its open spaces, which by 1849 were managed by Commissioner of Public Buildings under the newly created Department of the Interior. During this time, many of the city's roads and parks were improved, including Lafayette Square, which was planted and enclosed with an iron fence. In 1857, the increased growth of the city was captured by German cartographer Albert Boschke who surveyed the city of Washington and published a map showing the accepted street plan laid over existing conditions. The map, which revealed much of the development of the city at that time, showed that undeveloped swaths of land remained throughout the Dupont Circle neighborhood. The circle itself is partially cut through but still not clearly defined by the surrounding streets. The outline of the triangular parcel east of the circle at Massachusetts Avenue and 18th and P streets, NW (later U.S. Reservation 61) appeared on the map but that to the west (later U.S. Reservation 59) was absent (Barthold 1993: 2; Boschke 1857).



Figure 1. Dupont Circle identified on L'Enfant plan (Library of Congress).



Figure 2. Dupont Circle identified on Ellicott map (Library of Congress).

DEVELOPMENT OF THE DUPONT CIRCLE LANDSCAPE, 1867 TO 1882

In 1867, management of the city's large, small, and irregularly shaped public spaces, was again transferred to the newly created Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPB&G). The new office was a part of the War Department and the work of the division was carried out by the Army Corps of Engineers. Brigadier General Nathaniel Michler was appointed the first officer in charge of the OPB&G (Scott 2005: 72, 75).

In response the authorization to allow Metropolitan Street Railway to lay tracks within the area, Michler recommended in his first annual report on the public grounds of Washington, DC that a circle be laid out "at the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues." This is the first known mention of the Dupont Circle reservation in government records. A year later, Michler reported that "A new circle has been inclosed at the intersection of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire avenues." He does not specify the type of enclosure. By 1870, Gen. Michler reported that the still-unnamed circle had "been inclosed with a paling fence, graded, and a plan prepared for beautifying it," but owing to a lack of funds no additional work has been carried out (AR 1869: 497; AR 1871: 978; Olszewski 1967: 5).

Although minimal work had been carried out within the future site of Dupont Circle, Congress did not begin funding major improvements until a territorial government was formed in 1871.

Although it was relatively short-lived—lasting for less than four years, the territorial government greatly affected Washington’s infrastructure and open spaces. Led by Alexander “Boss” Shepherd, the territory’s Board of Public works, initiated an extensive infrastructure improvements program. Concurrent with the neighborhood-wide efforts of the Board of Public Works, Colonel Orville E. Babcock, a personal friend of Alexander Shepherd, replaced Gen. Michler as the and worked closely with Shepherd to improve parks in the developing areas of the city. In 1872, Babcock reported that the future site of Dupont Circle, describing it as enclosed with a “poor wooden fence and graded; no walks laid; no trees or shrubs; not surrounded by pavement; no drainage or water.” He also identified the small unimproved triangle west of the circle between Massachusetts Avenue and P Street (later designated as Reservation 59), describing the site as a “vacant and unimproved” piece of ground (HABS No. DC-669, 1993: 2).

Despite later allegations of corruption and gross over expenditure of funds, which eventually led to the dissolution of the territorial government and subsequent termination of his position, Alexander Shepherd’s tenure as the lead in the Board of Public Works was highly successful. In those three years, over a hundred miles of streets were paved, sidewalks were built, a sewer system installed, approximately three thousand street lights erected, and many public reservations were planted with trees and flowers. During this time, the future site of Dupont Circle was also improved. Between 1872 and 1874, Shepherd along with Babcock worked together to raise the grade of the circle and install water and gas pipes for the future construction of a fountain. Walks were graded, graveled, and paved, and the wood paling fence around the circle’s perimeter was replaced with a black iron post and chain fence that consisted of 131 posts and 1,032 feet of chain. Twelve lampposts were also installed around the park at this time. Other improvements by the OPB&G included the installation of settees—possibly from the Druid Hill Park in Baltimore—and the planting of one ash, one-ash-leaved maple, one sycamore, and four cedar trees. The circle is also presumably sodded or sown with grass seed around this time (Olszewski 1967: 17; Scott 2005: 75, 81, 113; Gutheim 1977: 86; AR 1873:5-9).

Improvements to the circle in the 1870s attracted wealthy investors in the area. A group of speculators known as the California Syndicate purchased \$600,000 worth of land surrounding the future circle. Members of the syndicate included Senator William M. Stewart of Nevada; Curtis J. Hillyer, a mining industrialist from Nevada; and Thomas Sunderland, a wealthy miner from California. Starting with Senator Stewart, each member of the syndicate built substantial houses on their new property. Soon after, other wealthy, socially prominent families, and later, other foreign legations began to move into the area building grand, architect-designed mansions in a variety styles on the formerly undeveloped land. At that time, the unnamed circle at the intersection of New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut avenues became known as Pacific Circle or Pacific Place Circle. The circle is first referred to as Pacific Place Circle in the engineers’ 1874 report (AR 1874: 15).).

By 1877, as shown on in an 1876 real estate atlas, the circle featured a perimeter walkway running along the edge of the circle. A second walkway lined an open central circle of 60 feet in diameter that was reserved for the ornamental fountain first proposed in 1872-73. Curving,

symmetrical walks connected the two circular walks with the entire circulation system resembling a pinwheel. Two drinking fountains were also installed at that time ("Government Reservations within the City Boundaries" 1876: 230, reproduced in HABS DC-669: 11).



Figure 3. An image, taken between 1884 and 1890, depicts the 1884 Victorian era landscape design for Dupont Circle including curvilinear walks, flower beds, lamp posts, and the Dupont Statue (CHS13887, DC Historical Society).



Figure 4. An image of Reservation 59 taken between 1910 and 1930. Visible are the Watchman's Lodge and fountain (Library of Congress).

DUPONT CIRCLE LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS, 1882-1917

In 1882, Pacific Circle was officially renamed “DuPont Circle” by an act of Congress (22 Stats. 4 (1882) to honor the late Samuel Francis du Pont (1803-65), Union Rear Admiral during the American Civil War. The fountain concept was subsequently abandoned soon after when Congress authorized the construction of a memorial statue and the redesign the circle's landscape around the statue (22 Stats. 4 (1882). A granite pedestal was constructed immediately, but Congress appropriated sufficient funds to complete the project only in 1884. The standing bronze portrait statue by sculptor Launt Thompson of the New York Academy of Design was officially dedicated on December 20, 1884. Now referred to as Dupont Circle, the reservation was redesigned to reflect the sensibilities of the Victorian era and was typical of the design style employed throughout Washington's small parks during the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Dupont statue served as the circle's central focal point amidst a complex arrangement of curvilinear walks, grass panels, flower beds, 850 ornamental trees and shrubs, and new settees (from hereafter, referred to as benches) (Figure 3) (The Dupont Circle Historic District Brochure: 1999; AR 1883: 2098; AR 1884: 2342).

Parallel to the development that was occurring at the circle during this time, improvements had begun on the western triangular reservation in the fall of 1882 (future Reservation 59). At that

time, the piece of land was enclosed with a standard black post and chain fence, the ground was prepared and sodded, trees and shrubs were planted, and a brick and stone fountain was constructed and fitted with water and drain pipes (AR 1883: 2098).

Throughout the 1880s and 90s, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Army Corps of Engineers worked together to improve the infrastructure within the city. While the District was responsible for paving streets, planting trees, and installing street lamps, the OPB&G was responsible for the city's parks, bridges, and executive mansion. During this time the OPB&G published maps indicating the locations of parks under its jurisdiction with numbers assigned for management purposes. At that time, Dupont Circle was designated Reservation 60 (hereafter Reservation 60 is referred to as Dupont Circle since it is the primary park reservation), the triangular parcel to the west was designated Reservation 59, and the triangular section to the east—acquired by the government by 1887—was designated Reservation 59 ½ (it was later changed to Reservation 61). (In general, the larger improved parks with names—such as Lafayette, Lincoln, and Mount Vernon—were assigned lower numbers, while the remainder, described by shape and location, were numbered consecutively along the avenue. For example, the thirty-four reservations along Massachusetts Avenue were numbered consecutively from No. 57 to No 90, which included the Dupont Circle reservations.) (L'Enfant Plan National Register Nomination, 1997: 26). During the surveying of Dupont Circle, the OPB&G identified approximately 193 deciduous trees of 29 types, 609 deciduous shrubs of varying species, and 16 evergreen trees. It is not clear whether the survey consolidated Reservations 59 through 61 (AR 1885: 2510; 1886: 2104-05; Olszewski 1967: 12-13, 17).

Between 1884 and 1897, general improvements and routine maintenance were made to the reservations. During these years, every spring, there was pruning of shrubs, seeding, and preparation of the flower beds. The summer months consisted of planting the annual flowers, and mowing the lawns regularly. In the fall, the flower beds were cleared. Also at this time, controlling the infestation of caterpillars in the trees was also a cyclical maintenance task that was carried out. Improvements that occurred during this time at Dupont Circle included the installation of new benches—bring the total to 56; regrading and sodding the lawns and mounds around the Dupont statue; repairing the asphalt walks with Portland cement; repointing the statue; and adding a 48-inch water main through Dupont Circle to improve the inadequate water supply to the fountain on Reservation 59.

In 1897, a watchman's lodge was relocated from the northeast corner of the Executive Mansion (also referred to as the White House) grounds to the east side of Dupont Circle. During these years, watchmen were assigned to oversee many reservations, such as Franklin Park and Lafayette Square and among others. Although, at first these were unpaid posts, but eventually funds were appropriated for salaries, and the watchmen were given authority to make arrests. The lodge was later repaired and the roof was painted. A gas line and radiator within the lodge were also installed, replacing the coal stove as the building's heat source (AR 1900:5260). Also, at this time, the city began to install electric lights near Dupont Circle, rendering the eight gas lamps running along the perimeter line of iron post and chain fencing unnecessary.

Aside from the changes at Dupont Circle and Reservation 59 during this time, by 1898, under the authority of Congress, the Chief of Engineers granted a permit allowing the Officer in Charge to lease U.S. Reservation 61 to an “adjacent property owner.” (Although it remains federal property, the permit remained in effect until around 1926, where at that time it was occupied and used by private individuals). Shortly after receiving this authority, soil was added to Reservation 61 to raise the level of the site, which was previously below grade from the surrounding area. This was the first known landscape treatment carried out at that reservation. Additional work completed at this time included the installation sod, grass seed and of four granite boundary stones (AR 1899: 3892; AR 1901:3701).

A watershed event in the planning history of the District of Columbia occurred in 1902, with the publication of the Senate Park Report, commonly known as the “McMillan Report.” This landmark comprehensive planning document provided the impetus for across-the-board improvements to many downtown parks in the following years, including Dupont Circle. However, while work on many parks were carried out soon after, it took decades for the City Beautiful ideals espoused by the McMillan Commission to be reflected on the Dupont Circle landscape—particularly Reservation 60. The plan developed by the McMillan Commission was overlaid on the original L’Enfant Plan for the city and provided an additional level of significance as a City Beautiful design that was influential on many other cities in the United States. This design focused on the organization of primary spaces along a central axis, and the creation of formal settings for buildings, which were generally designed in academic revivals of classical styles. The McMillan Plan was responsible for the construction of public buildings within the Federal Triangle, reclamation of land for waterfront parks, parkways, an improved and extended Mall, as well as new monuments and vistas. Aside from the specific landscape treatments for the larger parks, the McMillan Commission suggested that the smaller reservations, such as those associated with Dupont Circle, be treated in a more varied way. In particular, they recommended that some of the reservations be converted into playgrounds, while others have fountains and baths installed to moderate the effects of Washington’s heat (L’Enfant Plan, 1997: 32-36).

Over the next decade, the Dupont Circle and Reservation 59 landscapes were greatly improved. Beginning in 1903, the post and chain fence surrounding Dupont Circle was replaced with 1,067 feet of quarter round concrete curbing interspersed with 32 concrete “corner posts” at the entrances to the walks. An additional 190 feet of curbing was installed around the Dupont statue. Other changes at this time included the installation of ten benches, two drinking fountains, and six new “boulevard style” gas lamps, and the removal the eight lamp posts along the perimeter of the property (AR 1904: 3917-18, 3924, Olszewski, 1967: 10) On Reservation 59, a small frame lodge house was moved from the grounds of the Smithsonian Institution to the eastern edge of the site. Also, the basin of the fountain was painted and the ground around the trees was sodded (AR 1904:3928). Between 1904 and 1905, George H. Brown inventoried the location of all trees and shrubs on both reservations. At that time, there were approximately 166 trees and shrubs were located with Reservation 60 and 19 American elms were within Reservation 59 (AR 1905:2767-68).

Between 1905 and 1910, the interior and exterior of the watchman’s lodge in Dupont Circle

was painted; twenty new benches were installed (later set within concrete to prevent moving)—bringing the total number of benches on the circle to 100; a low fence of iron wickets, later referred to as “hooped irons,” was installed around the curbing surrounding the statue; quarter-round curbing was installed along the edges of walks within the circle; and walks were resurfaced. Finally, based on the limited documentation and no reference to the watchman’s lodge in subsequent annual reports, it is assumed by 1907 that the lodge in Dupont Circle (Reservation 60) was removed sometime after 1907. Also, at this time, on Reservation 59, the perimeter post and chain fence was replaced with the quarter-round concrete curbing and the old stone fountain was replaced with a concrete fountain basin; deciduous shrubs and new cast-iron pipes were later installed to accommodate the new fountain. A flagstone walk was later constructed at the entrance of the lodge, but was subsequently removed when the lodge was moved from the triangle’s east corner to its southwest corner between 1910 and 1911 (Figure 4) (AR 1905:2767-68; AR 1906: 2128; AR 1907:2319; AR 1911: 2969; Olszewski 1967: 16-17).

Throughout the early twentieth century, the Dupont Circle neighborhood remained one of the most fashionable addresses in the nation’s capital. By 1910, many of the original Victorian houses were razed in favor of Beaux Arts mansions that were in keeping with the greater “City Beautiful” trends sweeping the city at that time. During this time, Dupont Circle also began to undergo improvements that were recommended by the McMillan Plan, specifically through the installation of sandboxes between 1912 and 1916. Other changes included the construction of a gravel secondary circular walk between 10 to 20 feet inside the perimeter of the circle. Benches that were previously lining other walks were also relocated to supplement this new walk. Around this time, the watchman’s lodge, later referred to as the “park lodge house,” was remodeled and enlarged to accommodate its changing use as a visitor-use facility (AR 1913: 3210; AR 1915:3713; AR 1916: 3584; Barthold 1993:4). Finally, by 1916, the OPB&G planted a total of 2018 plants in Dupont Circle consisting of 72 deciduous trees, 773 deciduous shrubs, 170 evergreen trees, 559 evergreen shrubs, 250 perennials, 27 grasses, and 167 rose bushes (It was later supplemented with an additional 40 evergreen trees, 271 evergreen shrubs, 60 deciduous shrubs, and 150 herbaceous perennials.) At reservation 59, they planted 113 deciduous shrubs and 2 evergreen trees (AR 1916:3582 and 3584; Barthold 1993; 4).



Figure 5. Construction of the Dupont Memorial Fountain in 1921. (DC Historical Society)



Figure 6. A 1921 image of the Memorial Fountain. The visible carving is a figure representing the Sea (Library of Congress)



Figure 7. 1920 Landscape Survey, completed by Irving W. Payne, Landscape Architect with the OPBG. It shows the current circulation system, future location of the Memorial Fountain and other proposed additions (DSC TIC 826_80015).



Figure 8. A 1924 aerial image of Reservation 60 (Library of Congress, LC-USZ62-126513).

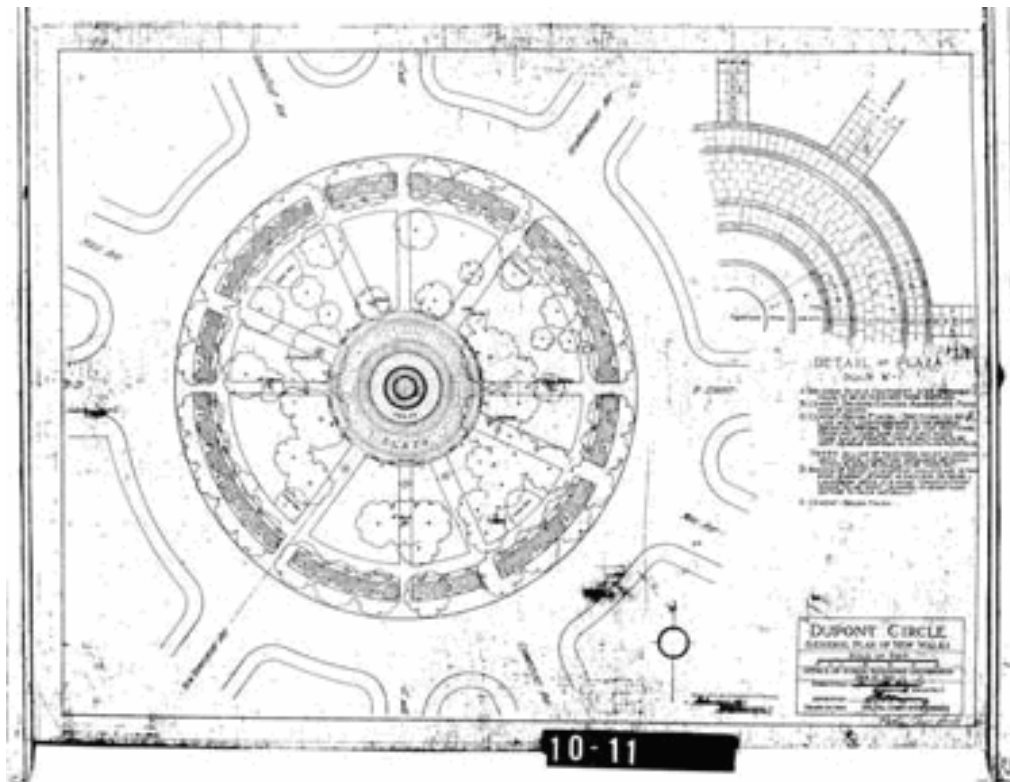


Figure 9. Irving W. Payne creates new plan for Dupont Circle in 1921. The plan includes 10 straight walkways radiating outward from the fountain and aligned with the centerlines of surrounding streets. This plan is not carried out (DSC TIC 826_80012).



Figure 10. A new lodge house is constructed on Reservation 59 in 1930. This one-story brick building contained both men's and women's restrooms and space for the park police (National Mall and Memorial Parks Archives)

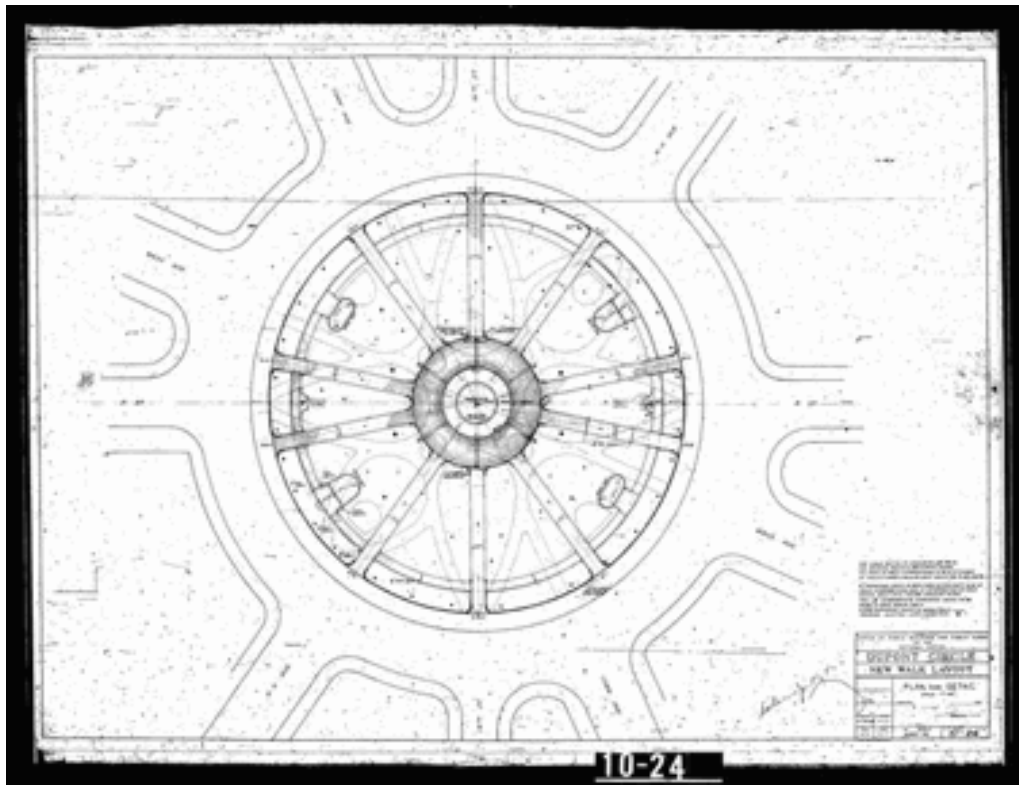


Fig 11. 1932 layout w/ the 1884 plan overlaid. Similar to the 1921 plan, but now, only 4 of the 10 lateral walks were placed along the centerlines of the roads. The remaining 6 were arranged on the lines of the adjacent sidewalks (DSC TIC 826_80024)

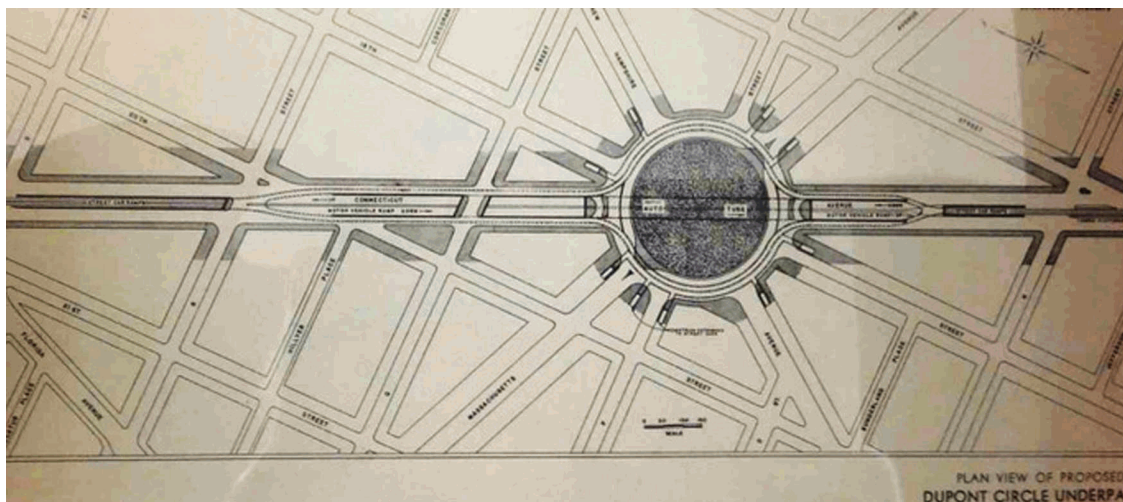


Figure 12. The 1946 proposal for the Dupont Circle Underpass shows that both cars and trolleys would travel under the circle and the trolley stop would be located there as well (388.4 G824, Circles and Squares, Washingtoniana Room).

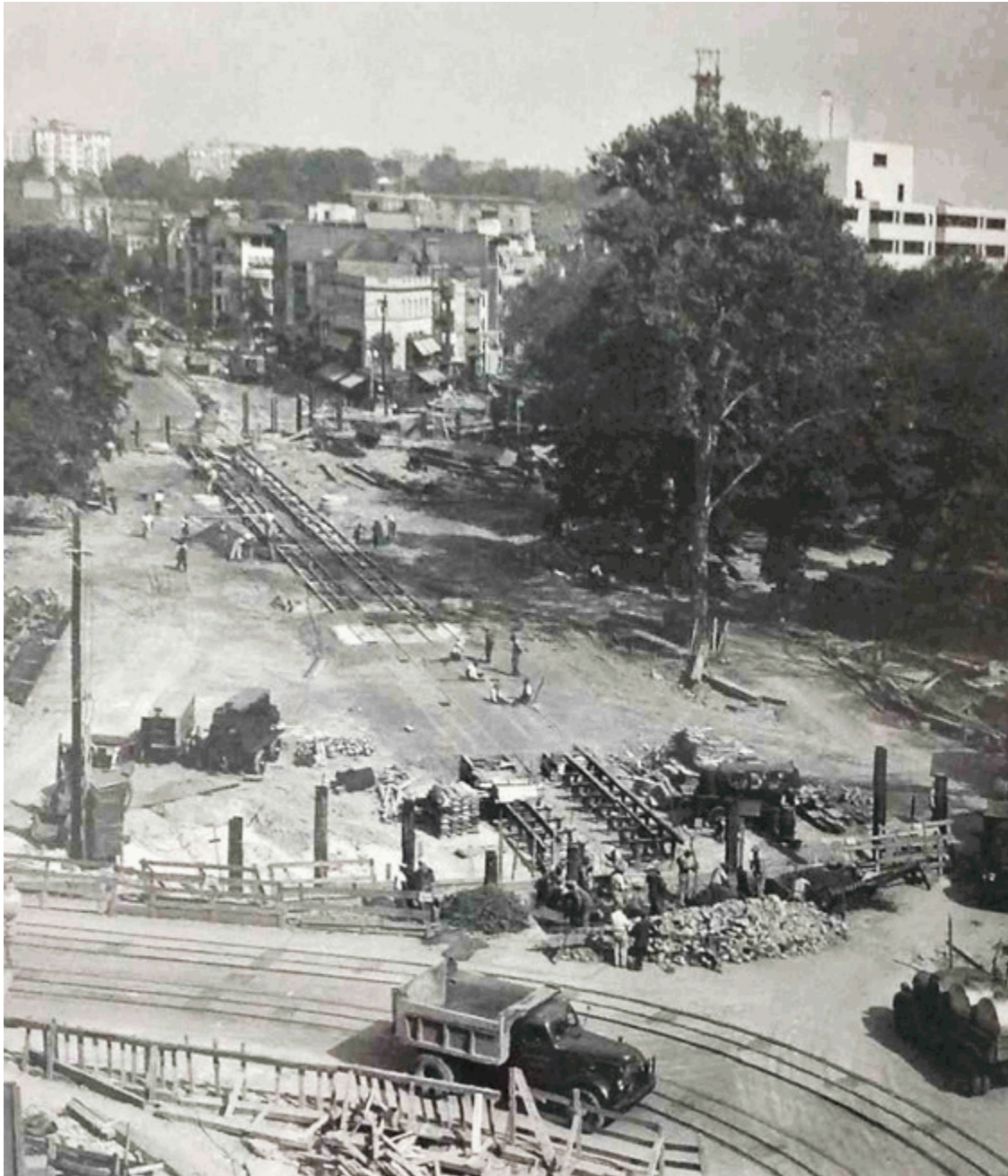


Figure 13. Construction of the Dupont Circle underpass, which would relocate and divert streetcar tracks underneath the circle (September 26, 1948, Washington Star, Washingtoniana Room).

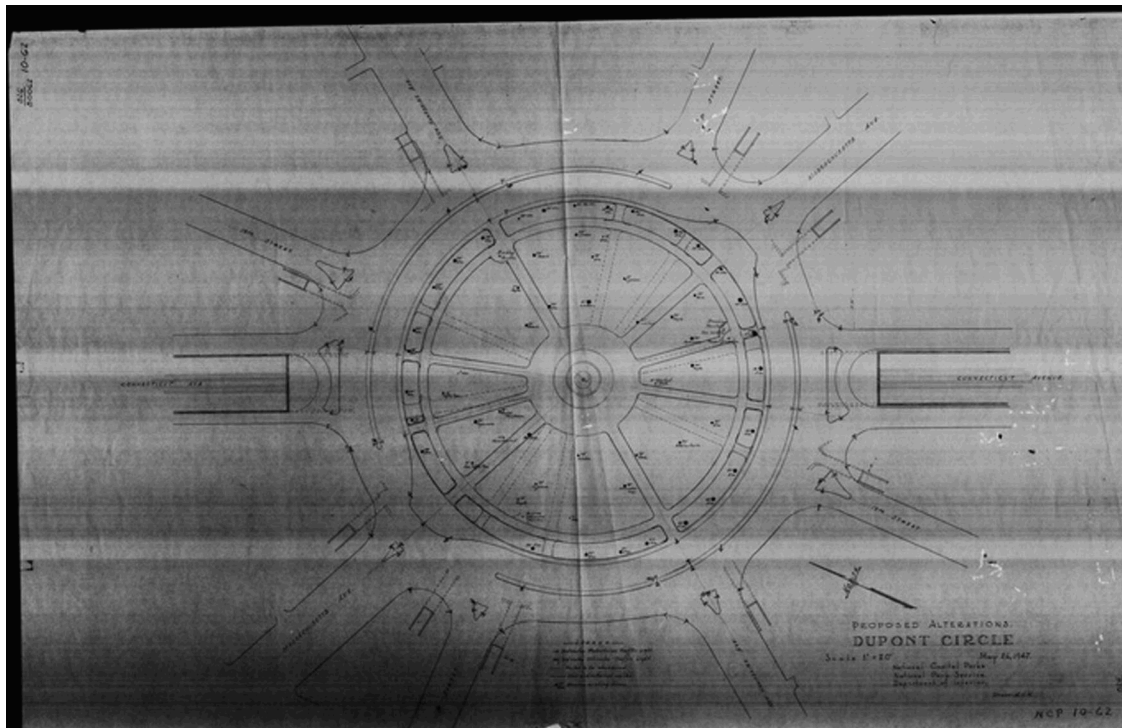


Figure 14. The 1947 Plan of proposed alterations to the 1930s landscape design, including the relocation of axial pathways and the removal of two paths (DSC TIC 826_80062).

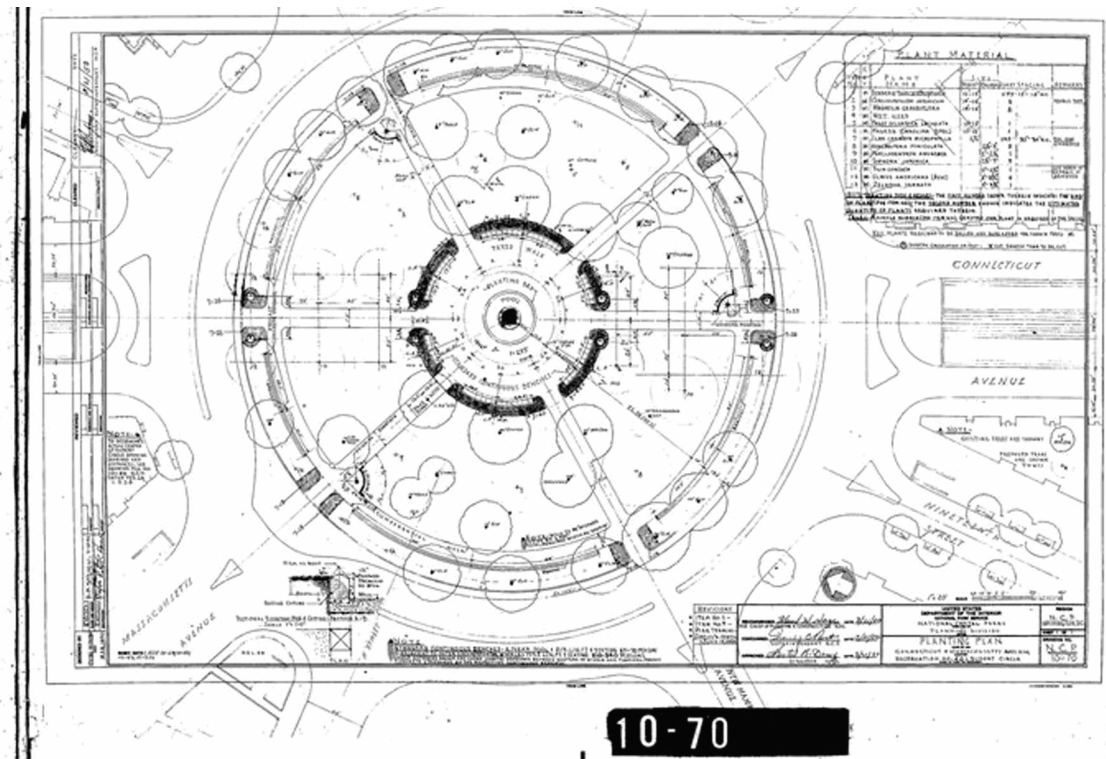


Figure 15. The 1950-1951 Planting Plan that accompanied proposed changes to the circulation system. It includes specifications about the addition of 24 new trees and 1,220 shrubs (DSC TIC 826_80070-1).

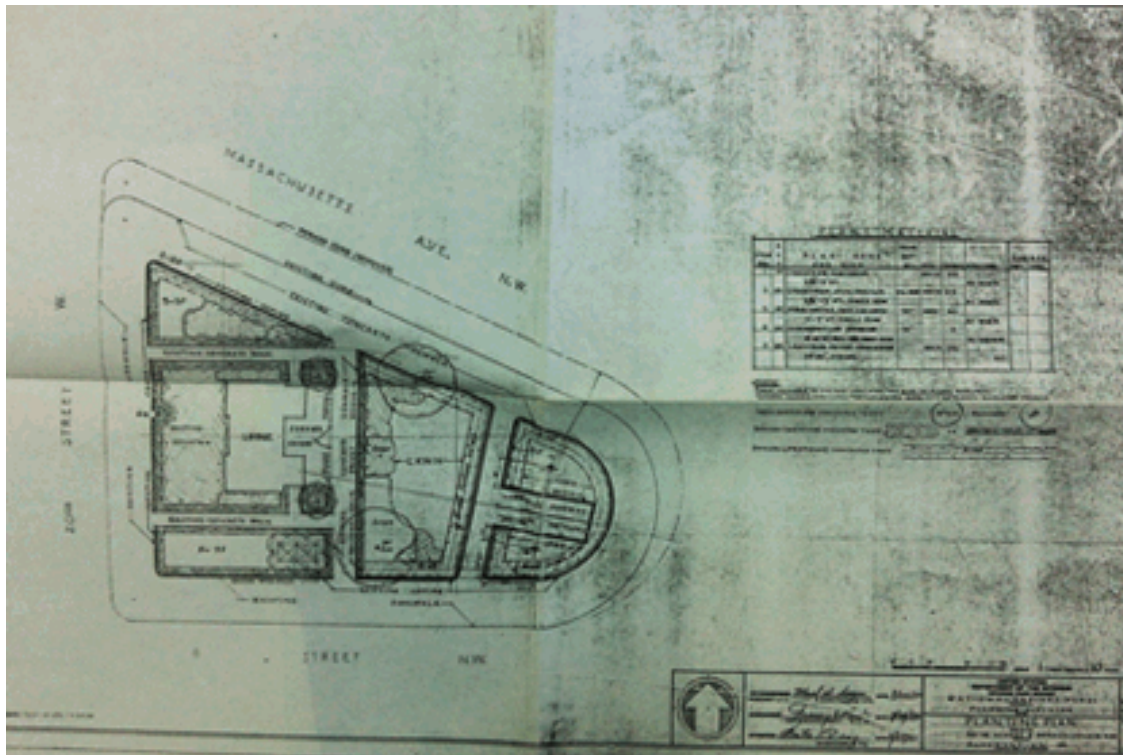


Figure 16. The 1950 -51 Planting Plan for Reservation 59, which included minor restoration, planting, fertilization, and seeding (National Mall and Memorial Parks Archives).



Fig 17. View from 1966 showing Conn. Ave running through the center and downtown Washington, DC in the background. The ring of perimeter elm trees and central specimen trees are visible in the circle. (AP Wirephoto, story by Kelly Smith, rw20600bd, 1966).

DUPONT CIRCLE LANDSCAPE REDESIGN, 1917-1933

From its inception, the Dupont Statue was never truly accepted, largely because of the criticism directed at the growing number of unattractive and inartistic portrait statues being constructed in Washington, DC. (In an effort to resolve issues related to the construction of portrait statues, as well as protect the goals introduced by the McMillan Plan, the Commission of Fine Arts was created in 1910.) By 1917, members of the Dupont family decided that a more appropriate monument was in order. Among their specific requirements for the new memorial was that it

take the form of a fountain and be “light and graceful rather than heavy and massive.” Shortly thereafter, Congress authorized and directed the Chief of Engineers to facilitate the removal of the statue and replace it with a new memorial. The Dupont statue eventually was relocated to Wilmington, Delaware, where it currently stands at Tower Road and 19th Street (Olszewski 1967: 29). In 1918, with the support of the Dupont family, the Commission of Fine Arts approved Daniel Chester French’s design for an allegorical fountain and Henry A. Bacon as the architect. During construction of the fountain, it was found that there was water shortage in Washington that would prevent the city from running water continuously through the fountain. Learning of this, French commented that “A dry fountain is a pitiful spectacle and in this case the water is absolutely necessary for the effect.” This water shortage led to the installation of a water pump that would reuse the water in the fountain. In 1921, the fountain was constructed and dedicated. The overall cost of the fountain was \$77, 521, entirely funded by the Dupont family. The fountain consisted of three allegorical figures carved into the central fountain column, which vividly depict components of a seaman’s life: the Sea, the Stars, and the Wind (Figures 5 and 6) (Olszewski 1967: 33).

At the time of the fountain construction, the Dupont Circle landscape reflected the naturalistic and picturesque style of design that was embellished with overlays of ornate garden features in the gardensque style. In particular, the landscape included curving drives, four ovoid planting beds, four children’s sand boxes, and approximately eighty three trees of various species (bald cypress, beech, birch, blue beech, box elder, camperdown elm, Chinese varnish tree, Chinese weeping cypress, elm, hemlock, horse chestnut, Kentucky coffee tree, linden, maple, red oak, sweetgum, sycamore, thorn tree, white pine, and wild crabapple). Other features included 87 benches, one drinking fountain, and six gas lamps (Figures 7 and 8) (1920 and 1924 surveys conducted by OPB & G; NCR Lands Records Files, U.S. Reservation 60).

However, by the 1920s, many Washington circles and squares were beginning to undergo major redesigns that were influenced by the 1901-1902 McMillan Plan and characterized by formality, symmetry, axes, and ornament. At that time, future National Park Service director Conrad Wirth, then employed as a landscape architect by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, conducted a survey of Washington’s public reservations. He noted that 57 reservations were in need of upgrades to meet the needs of the times. Wirth reported that Dupont Circle and Stanton Park still had “curved walks and small odd spaces that are of little practical use” and featured flower beds that looked “like puddings or fancy tarts scattered about on the lawn” (Barthold, 1993: 37). By 1921, Landscape architect Irving W. Payne, Landscape Architect for the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPB&G), prepared new designs for Dupont Circle that replaced the curvilinear cross walks with ten straight walks radiating outward from the fountain along the centerlines of the surrounding city roads. The proposed plan retained the circular walks and the majority of trees and featured an elaborate plaza around the fountain. The planting of a privet hedge within the strip of land separating the inner and outer circular walks was also proposed. Presumably, funding was not available at that time, because the redesign did not take place until the 1930s (Figure 9).

In 1930, the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks (OPB & PP)—which replaced the OPB&G and took over management of the reservations in 1925—prepared specifications and

plans for a new lodge were prepared for construction on Reservation 59. The contract drawings called for the a one-story brick lodge and comfort station, approximately 20x30 feet, to contain restroom facilities and a park police substation. Shortly thereafter, work was begun and by September 30, 1930, the lodge was completed. The former watchman's lodge is presumed to have been removed at this time (Figure 10) (AR 1930:36; Olszewski 1967: 15).

By 1933, the OPB &PP was abolished by Executive Order, and on June 10, 1933, its functions and responsibilities were transferred back to the Department of the Interior, Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations. The transfer came during a period of growth and crisis caused by the Great Depression. During this time, as part of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal, Works Progress Administration (WPA) laborers refurbished many of the downtown parks with new layouts inspired by City Beautiful ideals (L'Enfant National Register Nomination, 1997: 37). Shortly thereafter, the Dupont Circle landscape was rehabilitated. The new walk layout retained the existing pair of circular walks along the perimeter of the site, but featured ten radial walks and a circular plaza around the fountain. It was very similar to the circulation system proposed in 1921. However, in the new design, only four of the ten lateral walks (those continuing from 19th Street and New Hampshire Avenue) were placed along the centerlines of their respective city roads. The remaining six walks (along P Street and Connecticut and Massachusetts avenues) were arranged on the lines of the sidewalks in the adjacent city blocks. The radial walks flared outward slightly upon meeting the outermost circular walk ringing Dupont Circle. The plan also called for the installation of new concrete curbing for flower beds, a total of three drinking fountains, four new concrete sandboxes, eight concrete benches, and a lawn sprinkling system. Most preexisting trees were retained, except those occupying the future plaza site. Initially, simple shrubbery arrangements comprised of periwinkle, regal privet, and California privet were to be added as complimentary plantings, but they were soon replaced by more intricate beds containing 330 feet of California privet hedge and 17 varieties of trees, shrubs, and plants entailing 727 individual specimens (American holly, cherry laurel, Japanese privet, thorny olive, viburnum, warty barberry, mountain laurel, firethorn, barberry, nandina, mountain fetterbush, highland doghobble, privet honeysuckle, wintergreen barberry, Mahonia, and box honeysuckle) (Figure 11) (Barthold 1993: 4; DSC TIC 826_80015; DSC TIC 826_80024; DSC TIC 826_80031; DSC TIC 826_80036; DSC TIC 826_80051; Olszewski 1967: 36).

Following the redesign of the circle, efforts were made to correct the problems associated with the Dupont Memorial Fountain being six feet below the existing grade. In particular, trash accumulated in the fountain and children were often found venturing into the lower basin, which led in many cases to the breaking of fingers and other parts of the sculpture. Eventually, 270 firethorn bushes (*Pyracantha coccinea*) were planted around the fountain (Olszewski 1967:37-38).

THE CONNECTICUT STREET UNDERPASS THROUGH TODAY, 1933-2013

With the increasing popularity of the automobile, as well as the improvement of the streetcar system, the demographics and economics began to progressively alter the exclusively residential neighborhoods of the city, which subsequently impacted many reservations and open spaces. At Dupont Circle, traffic was one of the heaviest in use because of its location as one of the

important crossroads of the city. This ultimately led to the transformation of the Dupont Circle area from primarily being residential to commercial in use. To accommodate increasing traffic, Connecticut Avenue was widened in the 1920s. However, despite the widened roadway, traffic congestion on Connecticut Avenue continued. Combined with Massachusetts Avenue traffic in the circle, the bottlenecks that resulted led city planners to attempt to ban traffic altogether from the circle in 1934 (Barthold, 1993: 5). Although this effort was short-lived, it served as a catalyst for the later studies that were conducted between 1936 and 1943 by the DC Engineer's Office, Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. These studies were carried out to gather information on the feasibility of constructing a streetcar and vehicular underpass beneath Dupont Circle. However, from the beginning, the underpass project was opposed by many citizen groups who coined sardonic phrases, such as the Dupont Circle "blunderpass." Undoubtedly, the outbreak of World War II caused the underpass plan to be put temporarily put on hold ("L'Enfant Plan National Register Nomination, 1997; 38-40).

Following World War II, the underpass project resumed and by 1947, the District's Public Works Department directed construction of the work. Concurrent with the Connecticut Avenue underpass, two semicircular tunnels for streetcars were constructed—which at that time was the final major project in the city's railway history. At the station under Reservation 60, car tracks followed the layout of the outer edge of the circle. Passengers accessed the station via four sets of stairs from the adjacent sidewalks and from Reservations 59 and 61. During construction, the Dupont Memorial Fountain was temporarily dismantled in 1948; approximately 21 trees were removed; and streetcars ran on a \$225,000 conduit that was temporarily placed across the circle and on the sidewalks. Also, at that time, historic homes fronting Dupont Circle were removed, such as the Leiter House and Hopkins-Miller House (Streetcar and Bus Resources of Washington DC National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form, 2006: Section E, 71). Based on government records, Reservation 59 had minor vegetation damage as part of the work. The first streetcar operated through the northbound tunnel on November 2, 1949 and the vehicular underpass was completed by 1950. However, the landscape improvements that coincided with the underpass weren't completed until 1951 (Figures 12 and 13).

Besides the reconstruction of the Dupont Memorial Fountain, which was raised one foot so as to make the inscription visible to the public, the 1950s landscape rehabilitation of reservation 60 was a collaborative effort by the National Park Service and DC Highway Department encompassed the reduction from ten walks to six and their realignment with the surrounding streets and avenues. This departure from the original layout figured prominently in the new design as it created vistas along the avenues. Additionally, the width of the outermost circular walk was reduced to four feet to accommodate increased automobile traffic; the secondary circular walk was widened by two feet; and continuous benches were installed lining the plaza adjacent to the Dupont Memorial Fountain and along the secondary circular walk. Changes to the vegetation included the addition of twenty four trees (two Japanese-Judas trees, two southern magnolias, one cut-leaf European beech, one Carolina silverbell, two goldenrain trees, one Amur cork tree, five Japanese pagoda trees, one little-leaf linden, eight American elms, and one Japanese Zelkova) and 1,220 shrubs (675 three-spine barberry around the fountain and 545

dwarf-leaved Japanese holly around the fountain plaza). Other changes included the relocation of three drinking fountains; and installation of Mueller boxes (Figures 14, 15 and 16) (DSC TIC 826_80059; DSC TIC 826_80062; DSC TIC 826_80063; DSC TIC 826_80070; Olszewski 1967: 51).

By the 1960s, the Dupont Circle neighborhood had slowly changed from affluent residential neighborhood to a mixed urban environment. Because of its convenient location, Dupont Circle became sought after as an office location. As more and more of the area was re-zoned for commercial use and height limitations were raised, developers took advantage and replaced the older buildings with large scale commercial developments. The Tax Reform Act of 1969 made destruction even more lucrative by offering a tax break to developers who demolished pre-1950 buildings and constructed. Also, by 1961, the streetcar tunnels under Dupont Circle were closed as buses became more widely used. Consequently, there were major changes in the neighborhood's visual and social character (Dupont Circle Revisited: A Walker's Tour: 1984). Aside from these changes, Dupont Circle also began to be used frequently by generally peaceful anti-war and civil-rights demonstrators in throughout the 1960s (Wheeler 2010: 191).

Shortly after its reinstallation, the Dupont Memorial Fountain was again damaged by inappropriate public use. Trash continued to accumulate in the basin and citizens were displeased over the unsightly condition of the fountain. However, many were also frustrated by the lack of access to the fountain. The NPS received many letters of complaint, which led to the planting of a three-spine barberry (*Berberis triacanthophora*) hedge around the fountain. Originally twelve feet in width, but later reduced to six feet in width, the barberry hedges were reinforced by an additional row of firethorn hedges that were approximately six feet in width. By 1964, the fountain was further protected with the construction of an eighteen inch high iron fence around the hedges.

However, within a matter of days Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall intervened and ordered the recently installed iron fence be removed. Shortly thereafter, plans were developed for the construction of a new circular walk and six sets of steps leading to the fountain basin. By 1965, sections of the iron fence were removed and the steps and walk were completed (Figure 17) (Olszewski 1967:60-61). Despite these improvements, there were still concerns with the existing fence and the hedges that covered the inscription at the base of the fountain. In 1967, the National Park Service conducted a Dupont Circle study that focused primarily on the issues surrounding the fountain. After discussing and evaluating numerous alternatives, it was determined that the iron fencing be removed and the hedges be replaced with Belgian block pavers; these changes were completed in 1968. Other improvements during that time included repairs to benches; new exposed aggregate paving on walks; resodding of the planting beds flanking the walks along the centerline of Connecticut Avenue; planting six new seasonal planting beds adjacent to the hedges lining the fountain plaza; and the planting of Chinese barberry (*Berberis juliana*) along the Connecticut Avenue walks. A new sandbox was proposed, but was never implemented. Aside from these changes, the increased interest in chess in the 1960s, led to the the construction of ten chess tables with Belgian block paving along the northern section of the circle between 1968 and 1973.

Between 1979 and 1986, the National Park Service made significant improvements to

Reservation 60 that primarily focused on the in-kind replacement of dead or decaying specimen trees. In 1979, the plans were planting plans were produced that called for the planting of 25 new trees, which included one magnifica hackberry, 1 weeping green beech, two Carolina silverbells

Beginning in 1994, plans were developed to rehabilitate the western portion of the abandoned streetcar tunnels beneath Dupont Circle (Reservation 60). Led by developer Geary Simon, the goal of the project, referred to as “Dupont Down Under” was to re-open the tunnel with a series of shops and eateries. As part of the plan, three of the existing streetcar entrances were to be re-opened to provide access to the underground. The streetcar entrance on Reservation 59 was the proposed location for the main entrance. The plan also called for a large glass and metal canopy over the entrance stairs and a small kiosk adjacent to the entry. Concurrent with these improvements, the National Park Service entered into an agreement (Adopt-a-Park) with Geary Simon and Dupont Down Under Associates to adopt Reservation 59. The objective of the agreement was to “to provide for the enhancement, beautification, care and maintenance of U.S. Reservation 59.” It stipulated that Dupont Down Under Associates would rehabilitate the Dupont Lodge House and make site improvements to the reservation, which included the installation of canopy trees and plantings, alterations to the circulation patterns, installation of light standards, and the addition of site furnishings. By 1995, Dupont Down Under official opened, but failed miserably just fifteen months later with many of the proposed improvements to the landscape and lodge house on Reservation 59 incomplete or defective. The only work completed at Reservation 59 at this time was the construction of a metal canopy over the entrance stairs (TheInTowner, March 1996).

Aside from the activities associated with Dupont Down Under on Reservation 59, the National Park Service undertook a landscape rehabilitation of Reservation 60. The first project occurred during the spring of 1995 and included enlarging the planting bed behind the benches around the center plaza and installing black steel edging around it and replacing the existing holly hedges with new narrow firethorn (*Pyracanthus angustifolia* “gnome”) hedges. Some of the existing hollies were replanted around the exposed tunnel air vents at the circle’s outer edge. To better protect plantings near the outside of the circle where walks come in, the bench rows were extended all the way to those walks. Finally, in an effort to discourage the short-cutting across the lawns—which resulted in worn paths throughout, simple post and chain barriers were installed. During the summer of 1995, the National Park Service replaced the two existing concrete drinking fountains with handicapped-accessible fountains and the worn areas around the chess tables were paved with granite Belgian block pavers. In the fall and winter, William Penn barberries (*berberis gladwynensis* “William Penn”) were planted around the outer perimeter elm trees. Other changes at that time included the planting of two regent Japanese Pagodatrees (*Sophora japonica* “regent”), one liberty sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis* “liberty”), and one little leaf linden (*Tilia cordata*), and the reconstruction of selected walks around the barberry plantings. Shortly thereafter, the existing industrial-like light poles were replaced with the traditional Washington globe poles and lamps.

Following the failed attempts to improve Reservation 59 as part of the “Dupont Down Under” project, the National Park Service, with the support and assistance from the Dupont Circle

Citizen's Association and the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission, successfully rehabilitated Reservation 59 between 1996 and 1998. The work included improvements to the Dupont Lodge House (former comfort station) to accommodate an office area for police and a resource center for the local community. Other changes included the rehabilitation of the landscape that consisted of relocating vegetation and adding flower beds; reconfiguring circulation by removing walks along the north and south elevations of the Dupont Lodge House and constructing a new concrete sidewalk with smooth quarter round concrete curbing along the east elevation; installing a wrought iron fence around the building, constructing additional metro shelters, and adding traditional Washington globe poles and lamps. Also, at the time of the rehabilitation, the four streetcar entrances, including the entrance on Reservation 59, were boarded up.

Beginning in 2000, the National Park Service began work on a series of improvements to Reservation 60, which included plumbing and maintenance upgrades to the drinking fountains and Dupont Circle Fountain; replacing damaged concrete within the plaza and walks; adding a wicket wrought iron fence around the planting beds lining the central plaza; installing post and chain fencing along the walk at the perimeter of the property. Though much of the work was completed in 2001, it was plagued with many problems that took years to resolve. These issues primarily dealt with the overall appearance of the concrete work, which had numerous structural problems that consisted of spalling and chipping in many places.

Following the rehabilitation of Reservation 60, there was public controversy over the installation of the post and chain fencing, as well as the placement of chrome flood lights on the Jury's Hotel that cast down on Dupont Circle. While the National Park Service and many businesses approved the lights for security purposes, the public commented that the park looked like an "empty prison." By the end of 2001, however, the lights were removed from the hotel. Today, the post and chain fencing still exists.

In recent years, improvements to Dupont Circle—specifically Reservation 60, have largely focused on the infestation of rats. In an effort to reduce the population of these rodents, the National Park Service and the DC Department of Health joined together and began a rat abatement campaign. Work included removing trash receptacles from the hedges lining the plaza and installing new receptacles along each of the six radial sidewalks. Six were placed at the end of the post and chain fencing, opposite the Washington Globe light poles. Other changes at that time included the replacement of the wrought iron fence around the planting beds with the post and chain fencing; the removal of all barberries, and the elimination of the exposed tunnel air vents along with the holly plants.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Dupont Circle landscape (Reservations 59 and 60) is defined by significant landscape characteristics, including spatial organization, views and vistas, land use, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, constructed water features, and small-scale features. In this CLI, each of the landscape characteristics is evaluated by comparing its historic condition to its existing condition to determine whether it contributes to the historic character of the landscape.

The physical integrity of the Dupont Circle landscape (Reservations 59 and 60) is evaluated by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the period of significance (1791-1792; 1868-1951) with current conditions. Many of the landscape's historic characteristics and features are still intact. The landscape continues to function primarily as the setting for the Dupont Memorial Fountain, but also serves a social space for the businesses and residents in the area. Centrally located within a relatively flat area, the Dupont Memorial Fountain and surrounding plaza—lined with hedges and seasonal planting beds, continues to serve as the focal point of the landscape. Views to and from the circle to the streets are still extant. Beyond the fountain, the quarter-round curbing (exposed aggregate concrete) in both reservations, the concentric concrete walks, as well as the radial walks are all still extant, and the perimeter elms, interior specimen trees, lawn panels, and hedges remain intact, evoking the spatial character shaped by the work of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks and later National Park Service through the early 1950s. Other features that remain from the historic period include the Dupont Lodge House, situated on Reservation 59, and the continuous concrete circle benches and the Washington Globe Lights in Reservation 60.

Since the historic period, the National Park Service replaced the historic drinking fountains with accessible fountains; added Belgian block pavers, steps, and sidewalk around fountain; created additional planting beds; constructed chess tables; and installed post-and-chain fencing and trash receptacles, and informational and directional signage. However, the majority of changes that took place occurred on Reservation 59 and were primarily related to the rehabilitation of the Dupont Lodge House in the 1990s. These changes included the addition of wrought iron fencing, quarter-round curbing (smooth concrete) and a Washington Globe lamp post; the reconfiguration of lawn panels and concrete and brick walks; and the planting of foundation hedges and specimen trees. Other changes included the construction of a metro shelter and the placement of signage and trash receptacles. Despite some changes in vegetation, circulation, and small-scale features, the Dupont Circle cultural landscape retains overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

INTEGRITY:

Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its historic identity or the extent to which a property evokes its appearance during a particular historic period, usually the period of significance. While evaluation of integrity is often a subjective judgment, particularly for a landscape, it must be grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance. The National Register program identifies seven aspects of integrity including location, design, setting,

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materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Retention of these qualities is essential for a property to convey its significance, though all seven qualities of integrity need not be present to convey a sense of past time and place.

Location:

Situated at the intersection of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire avenues, and 19th and P streets, Dupont Circle remains in the same location as it did when it was delineated in L'Enfant and Ellicott's 1792 plans for Washington, DC. Later, but still during the historic period two triangular pieces of land adjacent to Dupont Circle are set aside. These pieces of land are now known as reservations: 59 and 61. Both of these reservations, as well as Dupont Circle itself (Reservation 60) remain in the same location. Although the National Park Service used to manage all three reservations, they now own only reservations 59 and 60. The park still retains its configuration and purpose as a circular public park that connects the intersection of five major streets. Within the circle itself, many features remain in the location chosen during the historic period including the fountain, radial and concentric walks, the lawn panels, perimeter elms and interior specimen trees. On Reservation 59, the Dupont lodge house is still in its historic location.

Design:

The Dupont Circle cultural landscape continues to evoke the design principles of L'Enfant and Ellicott, as well as the later design ideals espoused by the McMillan Commission. The design of Dupont Circle (Reservation 60) as a circular park was a central element used by both L'Enfant and Ellicott in their designs for Washington in the late 18th century. Spaces like Dupont Circle were set aside and delineated on plans as land to be used as public spaces and connecting elements for the long axial streetscapes that would give the city its many impressive views. This design remains today.

In 1905 the McMillan Commission began a mission to enhance these public parks with new amenities and design configurations that reflected the City Beautiful Movement. Therefore romantic, winding and complex walks popularized in the Victorian Era were removed and replaced with symmetrical and geometric walks and landscape features such as the concentric circular and axial walks still present in Dupont Circle today.

Setting:

Despite the increased car traffic around Reservation 59 and 60 and the number contemporary buildings in the streets adjacent to the circle, the views and vistas and circulation patterns have changed little since the historic period. Both reservations continue to be set within an urban landscape that provides views to the rest of Washington and functions as a public green space. The Dupont Circle landscape's relationship to surrounding streets is still generally the same as when it was originally developed. Additions, removals, and changes have occurred to some of the small-scale and vegetative features since the historic period, but overall have not diminished the site's setting.

Materials:

In the initial development of Dupont Circle, the few materials actually used were chosen for the purpose of grading, creating simple pathways and providing some vegetation. Later, still within the

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historic period, materials were used to create a romantic, Victorian feeling for the circle. These elements were designed around the Dupont statue located at the center of the circle. Later, the bronze statue was replaced with a marble memorial fountain and the other materials used were chosen to create a design that embraced the neoclassical principles of the City Beautiful Movement. These elements can be seen primarily in the circulation system through the use of exposed aggregate concrete coping, concrete paved radial and circular walks as well as the vegetation such as lawn panels, and the ring of elm trees along the perimeter. This allowed for enclosure of the space as well as the use of the open areas (lawn panels) for recreating. The other neoclassical feature is the memorial fountain in the center of the circle. The centerpiece of the marble fountain depicts three figures representing the sea, stars and wind; the three main elements important in the life of a sailor.

Workmanship:

Within Dupont Circle, workmanship remains evident in the design of the lodge, memorial fountain, circulation systems, as well as the vegetation. The lodge and fountain have been maintained and preserved. Trees, shrubs, and lawn panels have been maintained or replaced in-kind. The circulation systems including the concentric and radial walks and the quarter-round curbing (exposed aggregate concrete) are still extant. While many original small-scale features in both reservations have been removed over time, small-scale features that remain and continue to contribute to the significance to landscape include the Washington Globe lights the continuous concrete curved benches on Reservation 60.

Feeling:

During the historic period, Dupont Circle was largely characterized by its urban setting and atmosphere as a refuge within the city. While traffic has increased in the area around the circle, this feeling as an urban refuge remains today in part due to the intact vegetation and circulation elements.

Association:

Dupont Circle continues to convey its association with its purpose and function as a memorial landscape and public park. Collectively all of the landscape features and elements embody the historic purpose and vision of Dupont Circle as seen by L'Enfant and Ellicott as well as the McMillan Commission.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTERISTICS AND FEATURES

The section below presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period (1791-1792; 1868-1951), contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is non-contributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource.

Aspects of Integrity:	Location
	Design
	Setting
	Materials
	Workmanship
	Feeling
	Association

Landscape Characteristic:

Spatial Organization

Historic and Existing Conditions:

As of the original open spaces identified with the L'Enfant Plan for Washington, DC, Dupont Circle, particularly Reservation 60, was largely defined by its shape and the diagonal avenue and streets that radiate from it. Within the circle itself, the space since its development has been loosely defined by its internal network of walks, vegetation, and the centralized location of the monuments that honored Admiral du Pont. When Dupont Circle was initially developed as a memorial landscape, the Dupont statue served as the focal point of the site situated within a system of curvilinear paths, set within an expanse lawn, scattered with trees and ornamental flowerbeds. In the early twentieth century the landscape was redesigned in response to the construction of a memorial fountain to replace the statue. Situated in the approximate same location as the statue, the Dupont Memorial Fountain was flanked by a circular plaza and a series of axial walks that cut through open lawn dotted by specimen trees; all of which are connected by two concentric circles along the elm-lined perimeter of the park. Following the construction of the vehicular and streetcar underpass in the 1950s, the circle was again redesigned, retaining many of the design elements of the previous design—specifically radiating and concentric walks, scattering of trees, and centralized fountain, with exception two major changes that included the realignment and reduction of walks to better align with the existing roads surrounding the park. The changes that occurred during these periods created the character of the landscape seen today.

Today, the spatial organization within the Dupont Circle landscape remains largely intact to the historic period. It is very similar to the historic period. It is marked by a large centrally located elevated fountain basin encircled by a paved concrete plaza lined with hedges and benches. The hedges and benches create a thick boundary between the outer portion of the circle and the space at the center. The memorial fountain forms the true center of Dupont Circle and makes use of circular geometry. The fountain itself is a marble sculpture with an upper and lower pool. Both pools are circular and mirror the circular nature of the entire park. Radiating out from the fountain is a series of axial walks—that cut through open lawn dotted by specimen trees—and align with the adjacent avenues and streets; all of which are connected by a concrete circular walk lined with benches along the perimeter of the park. Beyond the walk, an outer ring of elm trees define the space and creates a sense of enclosure. They also serve as a

welcoming archway into the space.

Since its initial development, Reservation 59 has served as the site for service related functions. Originally it contained a large water fountain, but it later accommodated watchman lodges. The former 1930s lodge is still extant today and the spatial organization of the site is largely defined by the building. The reservation has been redesigned multiple times, with the most recent occurring after the historic period.

Evaluation:

With exception to Reservation 59, the spatial organization of Dupont Circle (Reservation 60) contributes to the significance of the landscape. Since the historic period, the spatial organization for the property has remained intact and retains integrity of material, design, location, setting, and feeling.

Land Use

Historic and Existing Conditions:

The circles and squares on Pierre Charles L'Enfant's plan for Washington served both a utilitarian and commemorative purpose. They functioned as part of the city's transportation and circulation system by guiding traffic from one street to another, and L'Enfant proposed they include statues and memorials honoring significant individuals (L'Enfant 1791; NR 1994: 8:8). L'Enfant identified 15 circles and squares on his plan where commemorative or decorative features, such as columns, statues or obelisks, could be erected (L'Enfant 1791; NR 1994: 8:8). He proposed that these spaces could be divided among the states for each of them to improve (L'Enfant 1791). Although Dupont Circle was not among the 15 sites, it was identified on the map as a large, loosely-defined open space at the convergence of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire avenues with 19th and P streets, NW. Joseph Ellicott's plan later gave more definition to the site and was represented as circular open space. When the site was developed in the 1860s and with the installation of the Dupont statue in 1884 and later Dupont fountain in 1921, the circle functioned according to L'Enfant's plan as both a part of the city's circulation system, place to honor a significant person, and a public park.

Beyond Dupont Circle, Reservation 59 has served as the location of a Watchman's lodge since 1904. Although an earlier lodge was first located on Dupont Circle (Reservation 60) in 1897, it was eventually replaced by the watchman's lodge in 1904. It was renovated and expanded in 1916 to include a public restroom and comfort station, thus expanding the number of uses for the Dupont Circle cultural landscape. In 1930, a new lodge was constructed as a substation for park police and a comfort station.

Today, Dupont Circle continues to be used as a public park and remains a memorial to Admiral du Pont. In addition, the traffic circle remains intact. Use of the lodge as a park police headquarters and comfort station continues, but has also expanded its uses to include a community center and office space for the Dupont Circle Community Resource Center.

Evaluation:

All land use categories are still present on the landscape and retain integrity of material, design, location, setting, and feeling. They add to the historic character of the Dupont Circle cultural landscape.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Public Park (Reservation 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167019

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Memorial Space/Monument (Reservation 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167021

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Traffic Circle (Reservation 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167023

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Community Resource Center, Police Substation (Reservation 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167025

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Circulation

Historic Condition:

Concentric concrete walks (Res 60) were part of the initial circulation plan for Dupont Circle as shown in the 1876 Washington, DC, real estate atlas. This plan likely depicted the asphalt-covered gravel walks added in 1872. At that time, the park contained two circular walks: an outer walk and an inner walk. The outer walk ran along the perimeter of the circle, and the inner walk ran in a ring around the central open circle that was 60 feet in diameter; this open space was reserved for a possible ornamental fountain. By 1884, the park was redesigned to reflect the sensibilities of the Victorian era. The recently installed Dupont statue, served as the circle's central focal point amidst a complex arrangement of curvilinear walks, trees and shrubs, grass panels, and flower beds. As part of this redesign, the perimeter walk was retained. In 1912, a circular walk was constructed in the circle in order to relieve congestion. It was placed roughly 10-12 feet inside the walk along the perimeter of the circle. By 1924, the paving of the circular walk around the perimeter of the circle had been changed from asphalt to concrete. This outer walk ran for 1,166 linear feet and was 15 feet wide encompassing an area of 17,490 square feet. The secondary circular gravel walk added in 1912 measured 758 feet in length and had an area of 9,096 square feet. Both perimeter walks (the two outermost) were retained in the 1932-33 redesign of Dupont Circle and a circular plaza was added in the center around the fountain. In 1951 the National Park Service carried out design alterations to the circulation of Reservation 60. The width of the outermost concentric walk was decreased to 4 feet from 15 feet. This accommodated the increased traffic around Dupont Circle. In addition, the width of the secondary circular walk located 10-12 feet inside the exterior walk was increased from 8 to 10 feet.

Connecting walks were also part of the initial 1876 circulation plan for Dupont Circle.

However, originally these walks were curving symmetrical walks that were paved with asphalt

and connected the two concentric walks on the interior and exterior of the circle. They formed an almost pinwheel pattern. The 1884 design for Dupont Circle created a complex arrangement of curvilinear walks. In 1924 the length of all of these walks combined was 5,207.80 linear feet and had encompassed a total area of 22,710.57 square feet. In the 1932-33 the curving symmetrical walks were redesigned and replaced with ten radial walks that also served to connect the concentric walks. Four of these radial walks were aligned with the center line of city roads (19th Street and New Hampshire Avenue). The other six radial walks were aligned not with the centerline of the road, but with the sidewalks of the adjacent city blocks (P Street, Connecticut Avenue, and Massachusetts Avenue). The walks flared outward slightly upon meeting the outermost circular walk that rings the perimeter of Dupont Circle. This redesign was very similar to a 1921 plan that had been created but never implemented. In 1951, the circle's internal circulation system was altered again, but retained its overall character. The major change was the removal of four radial walks, thus decreasing the total number of radial walks from ten to six. The remaining six walks were realigned with the centerlines of Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire avenues.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (Since 1951):

The concentric concrete walks all remain intact. This includes the outermost perimeter walk as well as the secondary walk approximately 10 feet away, and the circular plaza in the center of Dupont Circle. The radial walks remain intact in Reservation 60. The concentric and radial walks are all in good condition overall, with areas of minor cracking.

In 1965, a circular walk with six sets of steps leading to the base of the Dupont Memorial Fountain was constructed, replacing an iron fence and hedges that had created a barrier between visitors and the fountain. In 1968, Belgian blocks were set into the concrete areas between the sets of steps that surround the fountain. This circulation feature is still intact and in good condition.

The concrete walks located in Reservation 59 were added between 1996 and 1998. Also, at this time, new quarter round curbing was constructed of smooth, rather than aggregate concrete. It remains intact and in good condition. Brick paved walks were also added to parts of Reservation 59 most likely during the same 1990s renovation period. These three circulation features were constructed following the historic period and therefore are not considered contributing features to the circulation (Figures 18-19).

Evaluation:

The concentric concrete walks, radial walks, plaza and quarter-round concrete curbing with exposed aggregate all contribute to the historic character of the Dupont Circle cultural landscape. They retain integrity of material, workmanship, location, design, setting, and feeling. The circular walk with six sets of steps and Belgian blocks around the base of the memorial fountain, as well as the concrete walks, brick walks, and smooth quarter round curbing are all non-contributing features as they were constructed and installed following the historic period.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Concentric Concrete Walks (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167027

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 46713

Feature: Radial Concrete Walks (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167029

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Circular Concrete Plaza (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167031

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Sidewalk, Steps, and Belgian Block Paving around Fountain (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167033

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Concrete Walks (Res.59)

Feature Identification Number: 167035

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Fig 18. Res 60-current circulation patterns:concentric concrete walks (top right, lower left and right) sidewalk,steps,and Belgian block paving around the fountain (lower right) radial concrete walks (top left) concrete curb coping (top right, lower left)



Figure 19. Non-contributing circulation features in Reservation 59 include concrete walks, brick walks, and smooth quarter round concrete curbing; the exposed aggregate curbing contributes to the cultural landscape.

Vegetation

Historic Condition:

Lawn panels were first installed in Reservation 60 along with the first tree plantings in 1874. In 1915 1,188 square yards of sod was added to the circle. Around 1884, hedges were planted in Reservation 60. They were arranged to showcase the Dupont Statue at the center of the circle. By 1933, following the replacement of the memorial statue with the memorial fountain, both circulation and planting patterns were altered to better compliment the fountain. This included the addition of privet hedges to the strip of land separating the inner and outer circular walks. Perimeter elm trees (Res. 60) were planted in a ring around the perimeter of the circle sometime around the early 1900s. During the 1951 rehabilitation of the landscape, new elms were added, presumably to replace sick or damaged ones, or to fill in any gaps. Interior specimen trees were located within the circle since its initial development in the mid-to late nineteenth century. Around 1872 or 1873 the first trees were planted including one ash tree, one ash-leaved maple, one sycamore, and four cedars. These first trees were large, mature, specimen trees that were transplanted from the Ellipse area south of the White House. As of June 1886, Reservation 60 contained 193 deciduous trees of 29 types, 609 deciduous shrubs of 33 types, and 16 evergreen trees of four types. By 1915 a total of 2018 plants were planted

including 72 deciduous trees and 170 evergreen trees. During construction of the streetcar and vehicular underpass between 1947 and 1950, it was found that 21 trees would need to be cut down in order to facilitate the underpass and open up currently obscured vistas. In addition, it was stated that 24 new trees would be planted along with 1,220 shrubs. It did not specify whether these were perimeter elms or interior specimen trees.

In the fall of 1882, the western triangular reservation, later to be designated Reservation 59, was prepared and sodded, and trees and shrubs were planted. By 1904, the reservation had approximately 19 American elm trees. In 1907, deciduous shrubs were planted to compliment the recently constructed fountain basin. By 1916, the OPB&G planted 113 deciduous shrubs and 2 evergreen trees. After 1916, there were minimal changes in the vegetation at Reservation 59. Despite the major landscape changes that occurred on Reservation 60 during the construction of the streetcar and vehicular underpass construction in 1951, Reservation 59 had relatively minimal damage as part of the work. The only changes that took place at this time included the planting of vegetation around the recently constructed streetcar entrances.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (Since 1951):

Shortly after the reinstallation of the Dupont Memorial Fountain within Reservation 60, a three-spine barberry (*Berberis triacanthophora*) hedge was planted in an effort to reduce inappropriate use of the fountain. However, damage of the fountain continued, which led to an additional row of firethorn hedges being planted alongside the barberry hedges in 1956.

However, by 1968, the hedges were replaced by a new walk, steps, and Belgian block pavers. Beyond the fountain, the plaza holly hedges were replaced in the 1990s with narrow firethorn (*Pyracanthus angustifolia* “gnome”) hedges. Some of the existing hollies were replanted around the exposed tunnel air vents at the circle’s outer edge. Also, William Penn barberries (*Berberis gladwynensis* “William Penn”) were also planted around the perimeter elm trees. The hollies and barberries were later removed.

After 1951, many planting beds were created along the radial paths within Reservation 60.

However, by 1968 the planting beds were removed and six new seasonal planting beds were established adjacent to the hedges lining the fountain plaza; these beds currently exist today.

Following the planting of 24 trees in 1951 with Reservation 60, the National Park Service maintained the trees by replacing in-kind dead or decaying specimen trees. However, in 1979, plans were produced that resulted in the planting of 25 new trees, which included one magnifica, one hackberry, one weeping green beech, and two Carolina silverbells. In 1995, two regent `Japanese Pagodatrees (*Sophora japonica* “regent”), one liberty sycamore (*Plantanus occidentalis* “liberty”), and one little leaf linden (*Tilia cordata*). Today, all perimeter elm trees located on Reservation 60 were either planted before 1951 or planted as part of the 1951 landscape rehabilitation of the circle. A variety of interior specimen trees also remain intact.

Eight of these trees were planted before 1951 and another five were proposed in the 1951 redesign. Although eighteen trees were added to the interior of the circle following the historic period, they collectively contribute to the overall character of the reservation.

Following the historic period, Reservation 59 underwent major landscape improvements that are evident within the reservation today. At that time, circulation patterns were altered, resulting in changes in the configuration of lawn panels; many trees were relocated internally; foundation plantings and flower beds were established; and hedges lining the streetcar entrance were

removed. Today, all vegetation within the reservation has been established after the historic period, and therefore does not contribute to the historic character of the cultural landscape (Figures 20-23).

Evaluation:

With exception to the planting beds added after the historic period, the lawn panels, plaza hedges, perimeter elm trees, and interior specimen trees located on Reservation 60 contribute to the historic character of the cultural landscape as they retain integrity of material, design, location, setting, and feeling. All vegetation on Reservation 59 has been added since the historic period and therefore does not contribute to the historic character of the cultural landscape.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Lawn Panels (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167037

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Plaza Hedges (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167039

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Perimeter Elm Trees (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167041

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Interior Specimen Trees (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167043

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Planting Beds (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167045

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Lawn Panels (Res. 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167047

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Specimen Trees (Res. 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167049

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Foundation Plantings (Res. 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167051

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



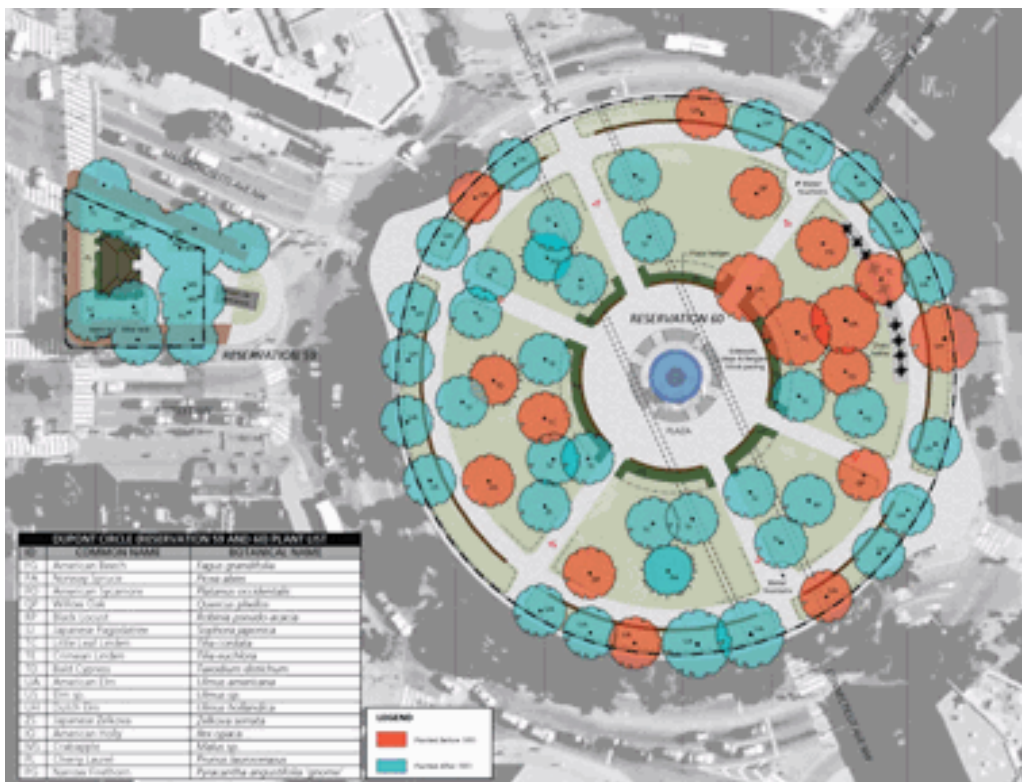
Figure 20. Vegetation in Reservation 60 includes perimeter elm trees (top left), interior specimen trees (all four photos), plaza hedges (top right, lower left and right), and lawn panels (top left and right, right).



Figure 21. Planting beds are non-contributing vegetations in Reservation 60.



Figure 22. Non-contributing vegetation in Reservation 59 includes specimen trees, lawn panels, and foundation plantings.



Vegetation Map (NCR-CLP)

Buildings and Structures**Historic Conditions:**

The Dupont Lodge House that currently stands on Reservation 59 was constructed in 1930. It replaced an earlier small wood frame watchman's lodge that had been moved to Reservation 59 from the Smithsonian Institution grounds in 1904. Originally, this watchman's lodge was placed in the eastern corner of the triangular-shaped Reservation 59. However, in 1910 it was relocated to the southwest corner of the reservation—in the approximate location of the current building. In 1916 the frame lodge was remodeled and enlarged, presumably to accommodate a public rest room.

In 1930, plans and specifications for the current brick lodge were produced. The contract drawings called for the construction of a one-story brick structure that would function as both a lodge (for park police) and comfort station (for visitors). The building would be approximately 20' x 30' in plan with electrical heating and lighting. Construction took place between July 1 and September 25, 1930. There is no mention of the retention or demolition of the frame lodge, but it is assumed that it was removed at this time to make room for the new structure. The brick lodge was built on a concrete foundation. It was topped with a slate, hipped roof and copper gutters and downspouts were installed on the exterior.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (Since 1951):

In the late 1990s the lodge had fallen into disrepair. Through a fundraising drive spearheaded by the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), the lodge was renovated and became a community resource center for the Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC). At this time the ANC entered into a lease agreement with NPS. The lease was renewable every two years and NPS charged the ANC no rent. In 1998 the lodge was assessed to be in fair condition. The majority of these issues were attributed to weather damage. The building also showed some structural deterioration and vandalism as well. However, by 2006 it had undergone maintenance and restoration work and was assessed at good condition.

Today, the National Park Service continues to lease the lodge to the Dupont Circle Community Resource Center as office space. The space is utilized by the ANC, NPS, and Metropolitan Police Department. No significant improvements have been conducted in over a decade, but the structure remains in good condition. The repairs that are needed is minor and includes fixing the rear gutters—which are bent; the replacement of two to four missing downspouts; repairs to the broken and interior fixtures; improvements to the security. Besides repair and replacement in kind, the only additions to the building exterior would be a welcome sign placed within the existing ornamental phone box enclosure, a kick plate on the door, and a hose rack (Figure 24).

A non-contributing Metro bus shelter was added to Reservation 59 at some point during the late twentieth century.

EVALUATION

The brick lodge dates to the period of significance and contributes to the historic character of the cultural landscape. It retains integrity of material, location, design, setting, and feeling. The metro bus shelter is non-contributing because it was constructed after the historic period.

Therefore it does not add the historic character of the landscape.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Dupont Lodge House (Res. 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167053

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 46709

Feature: Metro Bus Shelter

Feature Identification Number: 167055

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 24. The Dupont Lodge, also referred to as restroom building, is located in Reservation 59

Views and Vistas

Historic Condition and Existing Conditions:

Views from the circle to surrounding streets are located along the radial walks. In 1932 curving walks were replaced with ten radial walks which were aligned with either the centerline of the city roads or pedestrian sidewalks that ran down the minor streets. These walks created views from the circle to the surrounding streets that highlighted the road and buildings lining either side. The alignment with streets and the sidewalks allowed for uninterrupted distance views. By 1951, the walks were altered in conjunction with the construction of the vehicular and streetcar underpass beneath Dupont Circle. As part of this landscape rehabilitation, four radial walks along P Street and 19th Street were removed, thus eliminating the views from these points. The remaining six radial walks were slightly realigned to better align with the surrounding streets, particularly Massachusetts and Connecticut

Avenues, which improved the views to and from these roads to the circle.

Similar to the historic period, views to the circle from the streets today are comprised mainly of those seen from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Connecticut Avenues, P Street, and 19th Street. Each of these views highlights most of the landscape features of the park, which include the concentric and radial walks, a variety of vegetation (including the specimen trees, lawn panels, and plaza hedges), and the plaza and memorial fountain. These views were also created in the 1932 redesign of the circle.

Internal views to the fountain are also located along the radial walks. Views slightly change as pedestrians' progress through the space and move inward along the radial walks towards the plaza. Beginning at the perimeter of the circle, the range of vision is limited to the memorial fountain. However, once into the space, it is more open in character and allows for uninterrupted views of the lawn panels and canopy trees.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (Since 1951):

The six views from the circle to the surrounding streets, the six views to the circle from the streets, and the internal views to the fountain all remain intact (Figure 25).

Evaluation:

The six views from the circle to the surrounding streets, the six views to the circle from the streets, and the internal views to the fountain from the walks all remain extant and contribute to the historic character of the cultural landscape. They retain integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Views to the Circle from the Streets (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167057

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Views from Circle to Surrounding Streets (Res.60)

Feature Identification Number: 167059

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Internal Views to the Fountain from Walks (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167061

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 25. Views and Vistas in Reservation 60. Views to the circle from the street and from the circle to surrounding

Constructed Water Features

Historic Condition:

The Dupont Memorial Fountain located at the center of Dupont Circle (Reservation 60) was constructed in 1921. It replaced a bronze statue of Admiral Samuel Francis DuPont that had been designed by Launt Thompson and erected on November 24, 1884. An Act of Congress dated February 17, 1917 authorized the Chief of Engineers to remove the DuPont Statue, pedestal and foundation and replace it with a new memorial. Daniel Chester French's design for an allegorical fountain was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts. The Commission chose architect Henry A. Bacon to create French's design out of marble.

French's design for a double-tiered fountain was constructed of white marble. The fountain's central shaft was carved with three allegorical figures each 8.5 feet tall. These figures were separated by columns and represented the Sea, the Wind, and the Stars. On top of the carved shaft was a marble bowl/pool. The water flowed out of this upper pool and into the larger pool beneath. The lower pool measured 22 feet in diameter. The entire fountain was constructed on top of a raised circular platform with steps that led up from ground level to the edge of the lower pool. This circular platform base was built of Belgian block.

Around 1936, 270 firethorn bushes (*Pyracantha angustifolia*) were planted around the fountain in order to create a barrier that will prevent children from playing in the fountain and from trash accumulating in the pool. In 1943 the inner half of the hedge was removed so as to make the inscription on the base more visible. As part of the underpass construction between 1947 and

1951, the Dupont Fountain and hedges were temporarily removed. Following the completion of the underpass, the fountain was reconstructed and raised approximately one foot so that the inscription would not be obscured. Shortly after its reinstallation, the Dupont Memorial Fountain was again damaged by inappropriate public use, which led to the planting of a three-spine barberry hedge (*Berberis triacanthophora*).

Post-Historic and Existing Conditions (Since 1951):

In an effort to reduce the continued inappropriate use of the fountain, in the mid-1950s a firethorn hedge (*Pyracantha angustifolia*) was reestablished to supplement the existing barberry hedge. In 1964, an 18 inch high black metal fence was constructed around the perimeter of the fountain. Between 1965 and 1968, the hedges and fence were replaced with a circular walk, steps leading up to the fountain, and Belgian block pavers between the steps.

In 1998, the fountain was assessed as being in good condition, with only moderate damage from weather and some secondary wear caused by large visitation levels and pollution. In 2006, the fountain remained in good condition, but the exterior of the lower marble pool required repointing and cleaning. In addition, a portion of the stone surrounding the drain on the floor of the lower pool needed repairs (Figure 26).

Evaluation:

The Dupont Memorial Fountain contributes to the significance the Dupont Circle cultural landscape as it has remained unchanged since the historic period and retains significant integrity

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Dupont Memorial Fountain
Feature Identification Number:	167063
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
IDLCS Number:	46711
LCS Structure Name:	Dupont (Ad. Samuel F.) Circle - Fountain - Res. 60
LCS Structure Number:	06010001

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 26. Dupont Memorial Fountain in the center of Dupont Circle-Reservation 60.

Small Scale Features

Historic Condition:

During the historic period, the Dupont Circle landscape contained many small-scale features including, lamps and lamp posts, benches, drinking fountains, and fencing and quarter-round exposed concrete curbing. Gas lighting and lamp posts were initially installed in the circle around 1872. They were eventually replaced between 1897 and 1898 when the District of Columbia installed electric street lights near the circle. However, the lamps and lamp posts were not removed until 1902 and 1903 when eleven of the old gas lamps were removed from their posts and replaced with ten “new boulevard gas lamps.” In 1923 these boulevard gas lamps were removed and replaced with electric Washington Globe Lights. Each light was composed of a single frosted glass or plastic acorn/Grecian urn-shaped globe on top of a fluted cast-iron lamp post with molded bases and capitals. The globes were topped with small metal finials and used incandescent lights.

Benches were first installed around 1872. In 1875 they were repainted for the first time, and from this point forward, they underwent regular maintenance by the Office of Public Buildings and Grounds (OPB&G). Fifty new benches were installed in 1885 a year after the dedication of the Dupont Memorial statue. Ten new benches were placed in Dupont Circle in 1903, and in 1904 fifteen of the older benches were removed and replaced with twenty new ones. Between 1905 and 1906, 100 benches had been installed on Reservation 60. These benches were based in concrete that was sunk into the ground to anchor them in place. By 1914, benches that were

previously lining other walks were relocated to supplement a new circular walk constructed around this time. In 1924 the central portion of Dupont Circle contained 87 benches. As part of the 1951 landscape rehabilitation, benches were removed and continuous benches were installed. These new benches were constructed of concrete supports connected by wooden slats. They were installed along secondary circular walk and the plaza surrounding the memorial fountain.

Between 1868 and 1869 the circle was enclosed with a wooden paling fence. However, by 1871 the fence was in poor condition, by 1872, was replaced by a black iron post-and-chain fence replaced. In 1882, the triangular area that later became Reservation 59 was also enclosed with a similar black iron post-and-chain. In 1903 the post-and-chain fence surrounding Reservation 60 was removed and replaced with quarter-round curbing. The curbing was interspersed with 32 concrete “corner posts” that marked the entrances to each walk. A year later in 1904, the post-and-chain fencing located in Reservation 59 was also removed. It too was replaced with quarter-round curbing that ran a total of 392 feet. In 1909, 3,660.6 linear feet of 2” x 4” quarter round concrete curbing was added to Reservation 60 along the edges of the symmetrical walks running through the circle from the outer walk to the inner walks. By 1924 Reservation 60 contained a total of 5,207.80 linear feet of quarter round curbing amounting to 2,316.66 square feet in area.

Drinking fountains have been present in Dupont Circle, specifically Reservation 60, since the late 19th century. In 1877, two drinking fountains were first installed. Shortly thereafter, in 1884, two iron drinking fountains were installed alongside lamp posts at the center of the circle. These fountains were equipped with cups for drinking. In 1904 two additional drinking fountains were installed in Reservation 60. However, the drinking fountains were later replaced with new fountains in 1932.

Post-historic and Existing Conditions (Since 1951):

The Washington Globe lights installed in 1923 were removed presumably at the time of the streetcar and vehicular underpass. Following the 1951 landscape rehabilitation, there were multiple changes in lamps and posts at Reservation 60, however, by 1995 industrial-like light poles were replaced by the traditional Washington Globe poles and lamps; in the approximate same locations as the 1951 lamp posts and poles. At Reservation 59, the existing Washington Globe lights were installed during the landscape rehabilitation between 1996 and 1998.

During the 1995 landscape rehabilitation of Reservation 60, the continuous benches—both in the outer and inner—were extended to the edge of the radial walks. Today, the benches are still intact, but a few are affected by spalling concrete, which has led to exposed and rusted rebar. Other benches are uneven due to soil compaction and erosion. Also, during this time, the concrete drinking fountains installed during the historic period were removed and replaced with two accessible fountains. Both are located at the intersection of the outer circular walk and an axial walk. Each contains two silver metal bowls and two silver metal bubblers. One bowl is located at the top of the cylindrical base and the other branches out from the first bowl. They need painting and graffiti removal and are both non-contributing.

Quarter-round curbing with exposed aggregate is still intact in Reservation 60 and most of Reservation 59 (some of it was replaced in the late 1990s with smooth concrete coping). It is in good condition although parts of the coping are affected by cracking and slight wear, all of

which could be easily repaired through routine maintenance. The “corner posts” also remain intact and in relatively the same condition as the curbing.

The increased interest in chess in the 1960s, led to the construction of ten chess tables in the northwest section of Reservation 60 between 1968 and 1973. Each table is a square exposed aggregate concrete table with a chessboard is painted/embedded into the top. It is mounted on top of a metal pole that extends down into the ground. Each table has four accompanying stool that are also constructed of exposed aggregate concrete. In 1995, Belgian block pavers were set around the chess tables to improve the eroded turf areas adjoining the tables. Today, the tables are extant and in good condition.

Beginning in 1995, modern post-and chain fencing was installed throughout the Reservation 60; additional fencing was added in 2000. The fencing is a type currently used in other downtown parks, composed of simple steel posts surmounted by pointed finials, with chains attached to steel loops at either side of the tops of the posts. The posts and chains are painted steel, and the “acorn”-style caps are painted iron. During the landscape rehabilitation of Reservation 59, carried out between 1996 and 1998, a wrought iron fence was installed along the In Reservation 59, a wrought iron fence was installed The post-and-chain fencing that was located in Reservation 59 during the period of significance has been replaced by a non-contributing black metal fence surrounding the watchman’s lodge on all sides with a small break in the front. There are eleven thin posts in between each large in-ground post. It is in good condition besides a small amount of graffiti on at least one of the posts. All fencing in Reservations 59 and 60 have been installed after the historic period and therefore do not contribute to the significance of the cultural landscape.

Following the historic period, numerous small-scale features were placed to address visitor use and safety including the installation of trash receptacles and signage. Trash receptacles are located in both reservations. These circular metal receptacles are surrounded on the exterior by vertical wooden slats. The slats are secured to the receptacle by three metal rings with plastic liners placed in the receptacle for easy removal of trash. The metal portion is mounted onto a flat metal square with a metal pole that secures it into the ground. In an effort to reduce the population of rats in reservation 60, in 2008 trash receptacles were removed from the hedges lining the plaza and installed along each of the six radial sidewalks. Six were placed at the end of the post and chain fencing, opposite the Washington Globe light poles. Today, one trash receptacle is missing and some have been impacted by warped wooden slats and uneven mounting.

In recent years, NPS signs have been installed in both Reservations 59 and 60. The sign in Reservation 59 sits towards the southeast portion of the site and reads “National Park Service/U.S. Department of the Interior/Dupont Circle/Community Resource Center.” The sign is in good condition with the exception of a small amount of graffiti. Signs in Reservation 60 read “Help Us Keep Your Park Clean” followed by a list of ways in which visitors can help NPS keep the park clean. All signage is non-contributing (Figures 27-29).

Evaluation:

Besides the Washington Globe lights and benches located on Reservation 60, none of the small-scale features located within both reservations are contributing to the historic significance of the Dupont Circle cultural landscape.

Character-defining Features:

Dupont Circle

National Mall & Memorial Parks - L'Enfant Plan Reservations

Feature: Washington Globe Lights (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167065

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Washington Globe Lights (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167083

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 46712

Feature: Dupont Circle Benches (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167067

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Dupont Circle Benches (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167085

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 46714

Feature: Quarter-Round Curbing-Exposed Aggregate Concrete (Res. 60 and 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167069

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Quarter-Round Curbing-Exposed Aggregate Concrete (Res. 60 and 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167087

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Water Fountains (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167071

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Water Fountains (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167089

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Chess Tables and Surrounding Belgian Block Paving (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167073

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Chess Tables and Surrounding Belgian Block Paving (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167091

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Post and Chain Fencing (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167075

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Post and Chain Fencing (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167093

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Informational and Directional Signs (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167077

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Informational and Directional Signs (Res. 60)

Feature Identification Number: 167095

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: National Park Signs (Res. 60 and 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167079

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: National Park Signs (Res. 60 and 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167097

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Trash Receptacles (Res. 60 and 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167099

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Washington Globe Lights (Res. 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167101

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Wrought Iron Fencing Surrounding Lodge (Reservation 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167103

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Quarter-Round Curbing-Smooth Concrete (Res. 59)

Feature Identification Number: 167105

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Figure 27. Contributing small-scale features in Reservation 60 include the Washington Globe lights and the continuous park benches.



Figure 28. Non-contributing small-scale features in Reservation 60 consist of National Park Service signs, informational and directional signs, water fountains, post and chain fencing, trash receptacles, chess tables, and Belgum block paving.



Figure 29. Non-contributing small-scale features in Reservation 59 include wrought iron fencing surrounding the lodge, a National Park Service sign, and trash receptacles.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: 09/09/2013

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Dupont Circle has minor impacts that affect its overall condition. These impacts include some structural deterioration and deferred maintenance of several small-scale features, as well as minor erosion of the soil and improper drainage in select parts of Reservation 60. In Reservation 59, the only impacts are minor and due to deferred maintenance. They do not need immediate attention.

Impacts

Type of Impact:	Structural Deterioration
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Some of the concrete bench bases in Reservation 60 show evidence of spalling. Some even exhibit exposed rebar. Unless addressed, this spalling will continue to spread and cause additional. Some of the park lights within the circle suffer from rust damage. The bottoms of some of the lamps are rusted out, which is hazardous to pedestrians. Unless addressed, this rusting will spread and cause additional damage and the loss of structural integrity to the park lights.
Type of Impact:	Soil Compaction
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Also Erosion. Some of the ground around the benches (especially on the east side of Reservation 60) suffers from uneven settling, which in turn affects the benches. If not addressed, the settling will worsen and result in the loss of structural integrity of the benches. This in turn could pose a hazard to visitor/pedestrian safety. Portions of the circular walks suffer from cracking and uneven settling. This presents a tripping hazard to pedestrians. Unless addressed, this cracking and settling will worsen and spread causing increased hazards to pedestrians.
Type of Impact:	Improper Drainage

External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Some of the drains and manholes in the lawn panels do not drain properly, and thus cause the accumulation of some standing water.
Type of Impact:	Deferred Maintenance
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	Some of the Belgian block pavers surrounding the chess tables in Reservation 60 are missing or loose. This presents a tripping hazard to pedestrians and visitors. A few of the trash receptacles are warped or damaged, but still function. Others are unstable on their bases and one is missing. The post-and-chain posts need a new coat of paint. The constructed water feature in the center of Reservation 60 could use some minor cleaning of stains on the white marble. The lodge in Reservation 59 suffers from some deferred maintenance issues, all of which are minor. These include partially missing downspouts and bent gutters.
Type of Impact:	Vandalism/Theft/Arson
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The phone box attached to the front façade of the lodge and the sign (non-contributing) on Reservation 59 both have a small amount of graffiti on them.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

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